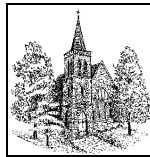


NUU s l e t t e r



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of
Lynchburg

A Welcoming Congregation



Minister Column

Sunday Services

As Unitarian Universalists we all hold personal beliefs that are grounded in one or more of the sources of our faith. Join us as we explore the six sources of our faith, so that we can learn more about the foundational beliefs of our congregation members.

July 2, 10:30 am, "Being Queer in the US". What does it mean to be a Queer/LGBTQIA+ individual in the United States right now? How has that evolved and changed over time? What does it mean to be an Ally and what are we called to do as Allies? We will explore these questions and more. We'll hear from several Queer individuals within our congregation to help us be more informed about what we can do, as individuals and as a congregation, to support our Queer members and the larger Queer community here in the greater Lynchburg area.

July 9, 10:30 am, Poetry by John Guzowski. John did a reading at the congregation about 5 years ago. He read poems about his parents. They were both Catholic Poles, taken to Germany by the Nazis as slave laborers. The poems tell their story.

In John's words: "Yes, I'm a poet. I've also written mystery novels reviewed in the New York Times but poems are easier to read. Nobody will stick around until I finish reading a mystery novel to them."

July 16, 10:30 am, "The View from the Bridge: Why We Gather" Why do we as individuals participate in organized (or disorganized!) religion? Come yet again, as we explore how religion serves as a bridge in our lives.

Our Guest Speaker is Anna Talou, Ministerial Intern with the Blacksburg Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

This is also a Generosity Sunday.

July 23, 10:30 am, "Sources of Our Faith" Join us as we explore the first two sources of our faith: • Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life; • Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love

July 30, 10:30 am, "Sources of Our Faith" Today we explore our two sources that connect us to organized religious traditions

- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves.

Dear Friends,

I have been encouraged to continue our conversation about the reality that Climate Change is inside us. As we dig into summer, it is a good time to look a little deeper into our changing perceptions and expectations of our surroundings. This month, as we travel, garden, explore or relax, spend some time remembering what July was like when we were younger. Do our current days seem different? Growing seasons seem to be shifting as our climate changes. One thing I remember is that my grandfather always said that the best watermelons were harvested around July 4. Today we don't think about only having watermelons available when they come from a farm down the road or from the next state. Now we can purchase any fruit every month of the year. Moving produce around the world contributes to global warming. Production of crops are shifting shift as climate change affects growing patterns.

Can we begin to live more sustainably by eating locally all year? Barbara Kingsolver took that challenge and wrote a wonderful book, "**Animal, Vegetable, Mineral**", about her family's year of raising and bartering for all the food they consumed on their farm in SW Virginia. Living in this wonderful area of the world means that even if we don't have a garden, we can support our neighbors by frequenting local farmers' markets. This is one small way we can counteract the effects of climate change.

I hope this month you will think back on how you lived during summer as a child and how you might make changes to live more simply. Shifting our focus to relationships and the natural world rather than consuming offers so many health benefits. Perhaps as we reconsider how we want to live, the effects of Climate Change that lives within us might be mitigated.

May we live simply and joyfully and peacefully this July.
Terre

DISCUSSION GROUP
The discussion group will resume on
Sunday, September 10th

President's Corner

Betty Corbin

Wow, what a busy start for our new church year! Much was accomplished last year, thanks to the hard work of many members and friends. Among those accomplishments is our new name: **Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lynchburg**. Many thanks to the name change committee of Kim Sinha; Bob Morse; Hannah Symonds; and Rev. Terre. We also had a successful auction again this year, raising nearly \$6000 for the church's operating budget. Thanks to Liz Farnsworth; Lori Schultze; and Dana Alcock for their hard work in planning; procuring items for sale; and PR. Thanks also go to the young adults and young-at-heart who, with true community spirit, pitched in with veggie chopping; table set up; and clean-up, to make our first live auction and gala since 2019 a success. A special thanks to David Young and Vanna White, usually known as Barbara LaFleur, for making the live auction fun and profitable. We are a competitive group for sure.

The new board's first meeting was June 14th. We were in UU Utopia as we discussed our plans for the coming year. Upcoming activities include:

- Sunday Services Brainstorming Session on July 11th
- Church Board Meeting on July 12th
- Leadership Retreat on Saturday, August 5th at Stacy and Joan Lewis-Yoder. All committees should plan to send at least one representative to help set priorities for the coming year
- Board Dedication on Sunday, August 6th during church services
- Church Work Day on Sunday, September 3
- Social Media Presence Workshop on Sunday, September 24th
- Developing PR/Social Media Guidelines & Policies
- Updating Safe Congregation Practices
- Workshop on Becoming Better Allies for Black Lives
- Web page change to WordPress to allow for easier updates of content
- By-laws review/revision
- Name Change Implementation Tasks
- Building and Space Utilization Review

As you can see, we have lots of things in the works. If you want to help with any of them please let me know. Many hands make lighter more enjoyable work and also ensure that different ideas and talents are brought to light. This is our congregation's 110th year. Let's make it a good one.

Blessed be,
Betty Corbin, President

Zoom

NOTE FROM ZOOM ADMINS

Here are the ways to connect with us on Zoom!

Weekly Sunday Service

Time: 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada).
Every week on Sunday.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86315352706?pwd=S1M1eFZVd1ZBK0RjBlp2dnN5WEc1UT09>

Meeting ID: 863 1535 2706

Passcode: 318498

Discussion Group:

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/955583755?pwd=YTFfFm01MlpYdjY1UkdCYU8yT0YyQT09>

Dial-in: (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 955 583 755

Password: 040542

Other meeting links:

Available from the relevant group upon request.



CARING & SHARING

In Our Thoughts

We continue to hold Fumiko Radile in our caring thoughts.

Don't hesitate to contact the Care Coordinator of your Community Group if you need help or have a concern.

We continue to keep in our thoughts those people who are experiencing difficulties or challenges and wish to keep their concerns private.



Pat Bower, Generosity Sunday team

In May, our congregation contributed \$ 1,191.48 to Camp Kum-Ba-Yah. Thanks to everyone who made this generosity possible.

On July 16, we will welcome Mark Sheehan, Executive Director of the **Boys and Girls Club of Greater Lynchburg** to talk about their important work. It is their daily mission "to provide programs and foster community for Greater Lynchburg youth that will make a lasting impact on their future." Their programs cover the areas of sports and recreation; education; the arts; health and wellness; workforce readiness; character; and leadership.

We hope you will make a contribution in July to support Boys and Girls Club. You may:

- Place cash or a check in the offering basket if you are with us in the sanctuary
- Click the **DONATE** button on uulyncburg.org
- Mail a check to the church at 818 Court St. 24504. The check may be made out to Boys and Girls Club or to Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lynchburg with Boys and Girls Club in the memo line.

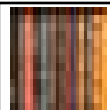
The Generosity Sunday team also includes Finis Southworth and Barbara LaFleur

**Bright Hope
UU Summer Community Service and FUN!
July 11, 18, 25, and August 1
10:15–11:30 am**

This summer we will once again (after a COVID hiatus) be offering a four week, simple yet creative program about plants and how things grow to the children at **Bright Hope**, an academic and enrichment program for Pre-K thru elementary. The children are fun and enthusiastic. Some know a bit about gardening. Some have never had the chance to see things grow. They are a wonderfully diverse group of children.

This is a chance to put our UU values and hands into action. We will be offering a program from **10:15-11:30 am** for four Tuesdays (**July 11, 18, 25, and August 1**). Makanah Morriss will be the lead teacher and we need some folks to assist. The "work" is fun and rewarding as we share a story, do some fun learning activities and then have delicious snacks!! This is volunteer work which will bring a smile to your face – guaranteed! Be in touch with Makanah (revs2uu@aol.com, **(434) 238-7205**) if you can help one (or more) Tuesdays. The program will be held at Bright Hope, 2310 Fort Avenue.

The hands-on garden portion will happen at the Veggie Spot Community Garden on Daniel's Hill with our friend from the Veggie Spot, Cynthia Coles, coordinating it for one hour each of those same Tuesday afternoons. If you can help with some garden teaching, that would be wonderful; please let Makanah know.



BookwUUrms is taking a summer break in July and August



MUUVies that Matter
NO MUUVies that Matter in July.
Look for us in August!!

Wondering About Kroger Community Rewards?



Look at a Kroger purchase receipt for the statement shown in the picture above. If you don't see the statement or you want to see how much your purchases earned for the church last quarter, go to **Kroger.com** and sign in to your account. Then click on the bottom left box that says **Community Rewards**. If you are enrolled, it will then show your Donation Summary and say your rewards go to **Organization #FL228, Alliance of First Unitarian Church**. Our earnings from this program are not huge (\$200 last quarter), but every bit helps. If you're not enrolled, follow the instructions at **Kroger.com** to join the 40 households in our church which do participate.

JART

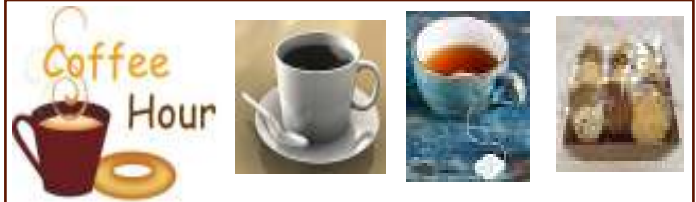
Justice Action and Resource Team

Justice Action and Resource and Team Meeting Tuesday September 5th at 7:00 pm

The team hopes to send out the JART survey soon. Be sure to return that, because it will be a huge help in guiding and directing us going forward as we decide which social justice issues our congregation is most motivated to work on. You may have already received (and returned!) the survey by the time you read this nUUsletter.

The next meeting of JART will be on **Tuesday, September 5 at 7:00 pm** on Zoom.

Put it on your calendar **now!**



Thanks to everyone who helps to make coffee hour possible this year by bringing healthy snacks and especially by helping with clean-up!

How do you know who shares "your" Sunday? Or another Sunday, in case you are looking for someone to trade with?

Check the online **Directory of Members and Friends**. It is available via the email you receive each month which announces that the new nUUsletter is available, with a link to past nUUsletters and to the directory. Usually they both are in the second line of text. Just click on the link!

This month's volunteers are:

- July 2 D-M**
- July 9 N-Z**
- July 16 A-C**
- July 23 D-M**
- July 30 N-Z**

Our weekly Sunday Services nourish our minds, souls, and spirits. Our Coffee Hours provide connections, conversations, and fellowship. Our Coffee Hour is a ministry of hospitality that we all offer and share with each other.

Thank you for participating.

Please label snacks that contain any form of nuts, or other allergens, for those with nut sensitivities / allergies.

Alliance News

**Second Thursday, July 13
11:30 am**

Lunch at Westminster Canterbury

We'll enjoy lunch with our friends at Westminster Canterbury. Buy your lunch in the cafeteria or bring it with you. Join us!

**Sunday, July 23
1:00 pm**

**Thoresen Theater
Randolph College**

We will go to the 1:00 pm performance of "Treasure Island" at the Thoresen Theater at Randolph College.

For those attending church that morning, you can bring your lunch and we'll have time for a quick bite in Unitarian House before going to the play.

Join us! All are welcome at both events



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lynchburg
Religious Education Updates

Greetings and happy July! We're now a couple of weeks into our summer theme 'Animal Adventures' and having a great time! We have learned about donkeys, house pets and what it is like to be a pet sitter, and turtles! We still have many fun learning opportunities ahead. We have a field trip planned to Wisdom Spirit Farm towards the end of this month - watch your email and the Facebook page for more details coming soon. We are also going to spend July working on learning our new church name and reviewing the 8 Principles.

I am looking forward to my time at General Assembly and all the wonderful people and ideas I know I will encounter. I can't wait to tell you all about it when I return! I am very thankful for this opportunity.

Finally, we are going to start featuring some of the fun social engagements our Community Groups enjoy. Please email me a note if your group has something fun planned so I can share the idea more broadly. What I have learned thus far is that planning something for our small Community Groups can be very simple and relaxed. Folks are eager for a chance to gather and the church is a free space that is easily accessible to all if you are unsure where to go. If your group hasn't met yet or recently and there is no one to coordinate a meeting, offer something up. It doesn't mean you have to take on a permanent coordinator role or do anything big, anyone can plan just one small gathering to bring people together. So let me know what you do! We want to celebrate YOUU!

Blessings,
Courtney

Director of Lifespan Engagement Contact Info

courtney.sinha@gmail.com

434-509-5821 text or call

Office Hours: By appointment only this month!

Adult Religious Education Offerings in July

- Adult RE Committee meets on July 18 at 7 pm via Zoom.
- The Young Adults will meet on July 11.
- The Alliance meets on July 13 at 11:30 am.
- MUUvies that Matter will return in August.
- Discussion Group meets weekly on Sunday mornings before the service.

Children and Youth Religious Education Offerings in July

- The Children and Youth RE Committee meets on July 10 at 7:00 pm, via Zoom. If you are interested in joining this committee, please let me know!
- Animal Adventures all month long on Sunday mornings in Religious Education! These classes are best for preschool-8th grade. We also offer an infant nursery.
- Parent Group to discuss all things parenting or just life as adults who are also parents meets via Zoom on July 17 at 7:00 pm.


Multigenerational Offerings in July

- None planned for this month thus far, but watch your email and the Facebook page for any late additions.

What's Happening in Your Community Group?

- Magenta group met in May for an in-person lemonade and cookie social. The group facilitator brought lemonade and everyone brought a plate of cookies or brownies to share. Magenta also enjoyed a plant swap at this social. It was hosted at the church which made for an easy, accessible, low-planning-needs opportunity to gather.
- Drop me a line to let me know what's happening in your group so we can feature it here next month!

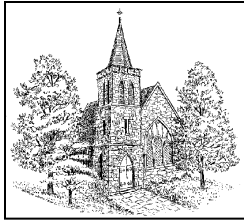
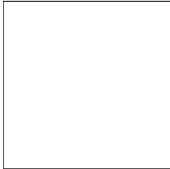


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>2</p> <p>9:30 am Discussion Group [see p.1] 10:30 am Service "Being Queer in the US" [see p.1] Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00 pm Committee on Ministry</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 pm Connections Committee</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:30 am Discussion Group [see p.1] 10:30 am Service Poetry by John Guzlowski [see p.1] Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00 pm RE Committee</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 pm Young Adult Group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30 pm Board Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>11:30 am Alliance [see p.3]</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:30 am Discussion Group [see p.1] 10:30 am Service "The View from the Bridge" Anna Talou [see p.1] Generosity Sunday Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00 pm Parent Group</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:30 am Discussion Group [see p.1] 10:30 am Service "Sources of our Faith" Rev. Terre [see p.1] Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR 1:00 pm Alliance [see p.3]</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30 pm Briana's Soul Matters Group</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:30 am Discussion Group [see p.1] 10:30 am Service "Sources of our Faith" Rev. Terre [see p.1] Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR</p>	<p>31</p>					

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lynchburg

818 Court Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



THIS MONTH: • BRIGHT HOPE; P.3

• ALLIANCE, 6/13 & 6/23; P.4 • Sunday Service; P.1

Church Staff

Rev. Terre Balof.....Minister
Candice FergusonAdministrative Assistant
Office HoursMon, Wed, & Fri
Courtney Sinha Director of Lifespan Education

Ernest Berry Sexton

Church Officers

Betty CorbinPresident
Stacy YoderPresident Elect
Matt CanningSecretary
Finis Southworth Treasurer
Stef Nichovich.....Past President

Trustees

Audrey DeJarnette (2024)
Jim Barton (2025)
Miles Dolihite (2026)

Nominating Committee

Joan Lewis-Yoder (2023)
Makanah Morriss (2024)

Committee on Ministry

Briana Valone

Endowment Committee

Joan Lewis-Yoder (2023)

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**Content Deadline
for the August nUUletter:**

Thursday July 20th

Submit Info at:

<https://uulynchburg.breezechms.com/form/20746f>

Jane Pianowski, Editor

Directions: The Church and Sanctuary may be accessed from the top of Monument Terrace steps. Unitarian House is at 818 Court Street. If the steps are a problem, handicapped parking spaces can be reached by driveways on either side of the Unitarian House. Once on the lower level, enter the Addition, where there is an elevator to access the Sanctuary level.

Notes: For files, please submit as Word document. Submissions prepared on Apple computers should be submitted as text within the body of the Breeze message.

If you would like your name to be removed from the nUUletter mailing list, please leave a message at (434) 528-0744 or email office@uulynchburg.org.