

NUUs letter



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of

A Welcoming Congregation

Sunday Services



Minister Column

Friends,

March 3, 10:30 am, "What Odyssey Brought Us Here" ? The Greeks wrote of great human odysseys taken by the heroes of old. Our odysseys from childhood to Unitarian Universalism are no less fraught with danger and adventure (though the monsters to conquer are different). Bring your memories of the journey that brought you to our community. Rev. Terre

March 10, 10:30 am, "Journey of Devotion" This week, Muslims around the world begin their yearly celebration of Ramadan. There is much we can learn from this sacred time of fasting, prayer and community service. Rev. Terre

March 17, 10:30 am, "After The Fall" How Humpty Dumpty put himself back together again. Joan Lewis Yoder, Rev. Terre

This is also a Generosity Sunday.

March 24, 10:30 am, "Building Our Belief" Building our belief about God/not God/Higher Power/Sacred Unity/Creative Force/Spirit of Life: the names are many. How do we understand and articulate our beliefs about that which is greater than we? Rev. Terre

March 31, 10:30 am, "Multi-Generational Easter" A Multi-generational honoring of Easter. With song, flowers, and community, we will celebrate Life and Renewal. Courtney Sinha, Rev. Terre, and Friends.

March is always a mystery to me. What I was growing up, Mississippi had more cold weather; that meant that March often had snow. One year, there was snow on my birthday and, since everyone in MS panics if one snowflake falls, we has a snow day. A holiday on my birthday. The weather has shifted across the Deep South over the past few decades and now I want it to be warm during March. The weather is always a mystery from day to day. So it is with spring. Every day there is some new discovery—something peeking up from the ground or blooming. I worry about trees that are slow in growing leaves. Everything has its own schedule that I seem to forget every year and am struck with wonder all over again.

We humans are part of that mystery. Many of us (I am one of those) begin coming alive with warmer weather and spring beauty. What might we do with this new season? There are ways to observe human responses to spring, but I sometimes wish that we could be flamboyant like flowers. Yet even as I imagine friends with flowers popping out of their heads or ears, I laugh. We humans are much more subtle than that. Our blooming happens as we plant gardens and hike the woods and settle into an outside café with friends.

How are we planning to open our hearts and lives during this unfolding of this new season? I hope that each of us is able to bloom in our own way.

Enjoy the mystery and the blooming.
Blessings, Terre

DISCUSSION GROUP **March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

We will be meeting in the UHouse at 9:20 am and hope that participants will attend in person. However, Zoom will be available for those who are unable to attend due to mobility limitations or other reasons.

Discussion Group Link: <https://zoom.us/j/955583755?pwd=YTFFbm01MlpYdjY1UkdCYU8yTOYyQT09>

Dial-in: (301)715-8592
Meeting ID: 955 583 755
Password: 040542





Betty Corbin



NPR Spring Fund Drive

Lots of good things have happened during February and more are planned for March.

The Unitarian House terrace apartment is leased to Asher Kirkwood. Thanks to Makaanah Morriss for her able leadership and to all of us who worked to get the space ready. On the third of February we had a successful leadership retreat in Drysdale Hall. The board and staff are working to lay out the 2024 calendar using inputs from this session.

Soup Sundays continue. The Young Adults will host the February one to raise funds for a retreat at the Mountain, our UU conference center in North Carolina. We plan to continue these luncheons on the same Sundays as our Building Our Own Theology meets. For March it's the fourth Sunday, March 24th.

RE is wrapping up K through second grade OWL training. Please consider volunteering to help in RE. The RE table display in Drysdale Hall on February 25th featured ways that volunteers can help. More volunteers are especially needed starting with our summer program in mid June.

Alliance, BookwUUrms, Soul Matter, and Young Adult groups offer ways to get to know others in our congregation better. If you need assistance connecting with one of these groups please let me know. Other ways to connect is by helping with coffee hour set up and clean up and volunteering at all-hands work days throughout the year. We gather on Saturday mornings and have a variety of chores suited for most all ages and skill levels.

The congregation's board has returned to meeting on the second Wednesday of each month. If you have business for us to consider or you wish to attend, please let me know at betty.corbin@protonmail.com.

As we continue to work for justice and live love in the world, may we remember that together we are stronger.

Blessed be, Betty Corbin, President



The NPR spring fund drive is about to begin! Consider channeling your National Public Radio donations through our Church. We pool our funds with several other UU Churches in the region to purchase NPR ads on **WVTF/Radio IQ**, throughout the year. Hopefully you've heard our new ads lately, and we're scheduled to add the number of ads in 2024!

You can use the 'Donate' button on our Church website, you can mail a check to the Church, or drop it in the offering plate – put a note in the memo line marking it for NPR. Please keep the effort going. Thanks!

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?](https://zoom.us/j/955583755?_YTFfbm01MlpYdjY1UkdCYU8yT0YyQT09)

[_YTFfbm01MlpYdjY1UkdCYU8yT0YyQT09](https://zoom.us/j/955583755?_YTFfbm01MlpYdjY1UkdCYU8yT0YyQT09)

Dial-in: (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 955 583 755

Password: 040542

Alliance, BookwUUrms, and one time programming

Room: Rachel Carson Room

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85658301039>

Dial in: +1 309 205 3325

Meeting ID: 856 5830 1039

Other meeting links:

Available from the relevant group upon request.



Pat Bower, Generosity Sunday team

In January, our collection for IOA, Interfaith Outreach Association totaled **\$1,083.70**. Thanks to everyone who participated!

On **March 17** we will hear from Donna Vincent, Executive Director of **Habitat for Humanity** to bring us an update on that organization. The need for decent, affordable housing is critical. There has been a Habitat chapter in Lynchburg since 1988. They partner with congregations, companies, individuals, and schools to build quality homes for those individuals and families who quality. Becoming a Habitat homeowner involves many hours of "sweat equity" as well as taking classes in personal finance and home ownership responsibilities.

To make a Generosity Sunday contribution in March, please either

- Place cash or a check in the offering basket if you are with us in person
- Click the DONATE button on the web page at uu-lynchburg.org
- Mail a check to the church at 818 Court St. 24504. The check may be made out to Habitat for Humanity or to Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lynchburg with Habitat for Humanity on the memo line.

The Generosity Sunday team includes Barbara LaFleur, Molly McClenon and Finis Southworth



MUUVies that Matter Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00 pm "Flyways"

We have a special eco-oriented MUUVies that Matter for March 12 at 7 p.m: "Flyways."

Each year there is a marathon global migration of shorebirds. They follow ancient atmospheric routes called "flyways" which can stretch thousands or tens of thousands of miles. Their annual journeys are epic. And yet the world beneath their wings is changing and tells us the world is in trouble.

In this PBS Nature documentary, we will follow a conservation movement of bird-loving experts and citizen scientists as they mobilize to the challenge of understanding and saving shorebirds.

This is sure to be an informative and breath-taking film. We hope you can join us via Zoom for the movie and discussion following. Contact Makaanah/Bob Morriss at revs2uu@aol.com for the Zoom link



BookwUUrms Wednesday March 20 3:00 pm



BookwUUrms will meet via Zoom on March 20 at 3:00 pm. Liz will lead a discussion of "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" by Mary Ann Schaffer and Annie Barrows, a book about a special book club and the lives of the people of the Channel Island of Guernsey during the German occupation of WWII.

Since COVID cases are up and precautions are recommended, we'll stick with Zoom only for now.

Alliance News

Westminster Canterbury March 14 at 12:00 pm

The Alliance will meet for lunch with our friends at Westminster Canterbury at 12:00 on March 14. Buy your lunch in the cafeteria there, or bring it with you if you prefer.

Our second meeting will probably be on **March 28 at 11:30 am**. That is subject to change, though, because we haven't firmed up plans yet. Details will be sent via email when we settle on what we'll be doing.

Contact Becky Piatt or Molly McClenon with questions or suggestions

JART

Justice Action and
Resource Team

Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

Becky will lead the meeting and Finis will take notes.

Email Pat Bower at bowerpatricia2@gmail.com if you'd like to be added to our email list. The Zoom link will be sent out on the morning of March 19.



**UUCL Spring Service & Goods Auction
Saturday May 4, 2024**

The online silent auction returns followed by a dinner and live in-person auction.

The annual auction will continue to count on all of us to be creative or offer traditional goods and services for the highest bidder to appreciate. Enjoy the opportunity to connect with other church members, share treasures and spend some quality time together. The funds raised will support our church's operating expenses.

Need ideas for what to donate? Here are a few favorites from past years: rides to airports or doctors; dinners, cookouts and games hosted by members and friends in their homes; movie & theater tickets; gift cards to local restaurants; sermon topic of your choice; Virginia Tech football tickets; a day at Martinsville Speedway; Pottery & Paintings by our members and friends; garden compost from Wisdom Farm horses; and, various outings to local festivals.

Save the Dates!

- * *Sunday, April 28th*: Online Bidding Starts
- * *Saturday, May 4th*: Dinner & Live Auction 5:30-8:00 pm
Online Bidding Ends at 2:00 am Monday, May 6th

Please contact Betty Corbin with questions and to donate auction items before Friday, April 26th.
betty.corbin@protonmail.com



**Workday
Saturday, March 23rd from
9:00 am to noon**

Join us to spiff up our buildings and grounds. We have jobs for all ages and abilities. Rain or shine. Bring your favorite gardening and cleaning tools. Please contact betty.corbin@protonmail.com for additional information.

We will:

- * Tidy up Main Level of Unitarian House
- * Tidy up RE Spaces
- * Clean Drysdale Hall kitchen refrigerator
- * Replace water damaged ceiling tiles
- * Prune and weed
- * Clean Fellowship Hall Stairs
- * Spiff up the chancel area of sanctuary

Kroger Community Rewards: Fundraising at No Cost to You

If you're a member or friend of our church, and you do some grocery shopping at Kroger, we hope you will join their **Community Rewards** program and designate your "rewards" (a tiny percentage of your purchases) to *The Alliance of First Unitarian Church*. It's such an easy way to contribute to the work of the church and the Alliance because half of the proceeds go to the church operating budget and the other half stays with the Alliance to be available for special church projects.

The KCR program has changed a great deal over the years and it used to be a lot easier to tell you how to join! I can't give exact instructions that will apply to everyone – it depends if you already have an account, whether Kroger has your current email address, etc. To apply for membership in KCR, I would go to one of these websites and follow the instructions from there:

www.Krogercommunityrewards.com www.Kroger.com
Organization name: Alliance of First Unitarian Church
Organization number: FL228

For questions, the Kroger Customer Service number is 1-800-576-4377. Their agents in the Live Chat have been helpful. I'll be glad to help if I can: Pat Bower, bowerpatricia2@gmail.com or (434) 386-3944.

JOIN REV. MAKANAH MORRISS AND
DLE COURTNEY SINHA FOR:

CREATING THEOLOGY TOGETHER

CLASS MEETS THE FOLLOWING DATES: FEB. 29,
MARCH 14 AND 28, AND APRIL 11 AND 25 AT 6 PM

CLASS MEETS IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM. CONTACT DLE COURTNEY
TO REGISTER FOR THE CLASS OR WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Our identity and theology are shaped by our lived experience. By understanding our personal theology, we can engage and deepen our commitments in covenantal faith community. Then we can name and claim our shared theology, to inform and shape a public theology that grounds our faithful actions in the world. Creating Theology Together was created to ground and center a congregation's social justice work in uu theology and mission, and to inspire a deeper commitment to covenantal community, and to our faith's values and principles.

SOUP OR SPUD SUNDAYS

All-Church
Fundraiser and
Lunch Social



PLEASE JOIN US THE
FOLLOWING SUNDAYS:
FEB. 25, MARCH 24,
APRIL 28, & JUNE 2

Suggested Donation: \$10/person
Family Cap: \$20
Cash Preferred

Meal served following the service and includes:
baked potato or soup, accompaniments, drink, and dessert.

CARING & SHARING



In Our Thoughts

We had two memorable birthdays in February:

Ruth Ball celebrated her 98th birthday.
Peg Stunkard celebrated her 103rd birthday.

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



**so many books
so little time**

SILENT BOOK CLUB LYNCHBURG

B18 Court Street, Lynchburg
3rd Thursdays 6:30 pm
Starts February 15

Dear Families,

The gentle breezes of March beckon us forward and with them comes a fresh focus in our shared spiritual adventure. Reflecting on last month's heartfelt exploration of justice and equity, we carry forward the lessons of fairness, understanding, and compassion that are so integral to our Unitarian Universalist principles.

This month, we continue our exploration of the proposed Article II changes with another core value that shapes our beliefs and actions: Transformation. This theme invites us to ponder the profound and ongoing process of growth and learning that touches every aspect of our lives. Transformation is a celebration of change, an acknowledgment of our evolving selves, and our interconnectedness in the web of existence.

Together, let's explore the myriad ways in which transformation manifests within us and around us. Through engaging stories, meaningful discussions, and creative expressions, we will uncover the dynamic nature of our beliefs, the impact of our actions, and the limitless possibilities of our dreams. Expect to hear about butterflies, flowers, and gardening as we prepare to welcome spring into our midst and watch Transformation in action.

We encourage your family to join us in this journey of discovery, as we learn to see the transformative power in our everyday lives and the broader world. Let us inspire one another to embrace change with hope, courage, and an open heart, building a future that reflects our deepest value of love.

This month, our younger Religious Education classes will continue with the Soul Matters curriculum as we will learn about the UU value of Transformation.

If you have a child in preschool-1st grade or 2nd to 4th grades, here is what you can expect: Soul Matters is a hands-on, exploratory curriculum. We use multiple learning modalities including books, music, movement, arts and crafts, sensory experiences, and shared experiences to learn the values in this curriculum. We will be studying and exploring:

March 3 - Transformation

March 10 - Ramadan

March 17- Spring Equinox

March 24- Holi

March 31 - Easter Multigenerational Service - **NO RE OR NURSERY ON THIS DAY**

Our older kids (5th-8th grade) will be continuing their look at gaming through an UU lens, as they finish at Building a Better World through their game design. They will complete their guide this month and then have a celebration game marathon to enjoy their achievement. **Date to be announced soon.** They will join the rest of the congregation in the sanctuary for Easter on March 31 and then they will spend the rest of the spring semester enjoying the game world they built.

Thoughts on Transformation

"For a seed to achieve its greatest expression, it must come completely undone. The shell cracks, its insides come out and everything changes. To someone who doesn't understand growth, it would look like complete destruction." – Heather Warman

We have great Adult RE programming this season as well! If you haven't found a spot for you yet, it's not too late. There are several interesting options for adults of all ages and stages! Soul Matters Small Groups meet once a month. It is not too late to join the in-person cohort or one of the online co-horts, so if you are interested, reach out to DLE Courtney Sinha for more information. See below for more on Adult Faith Development opportunities.

Just like the changing seasons bring a sense of renewal, our Religious Education program aims to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment where you and your whole family can grow and flourish spiritually. If you ever have any questions or would like to get more involved, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Blessings,

Courtney

Director of Lifespan Engagement Contact Info

courtney.sinha@gmail.com

(434) 509-5821 text or call

Office Hours:

Sunday mornings you will find me around church, usually in the RE spaces.

I am off on Mondays and Saturdays.

Tuesdays: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Wednesdays and Thursdays: 10:30 am - 2:00 pm

Fridays and Evenings: By appointment only.

Adult Religious Education Offerings in March

Discussion Group meets on **Sunday mornings** at 9:30 am.

Soul Matters Small Groups meet at various times, in-person and online. If you wish to join us, reach out to DLE Courtney Sinha.

The **Young Adult Social Group** (ages 18-35) will meet on **March 12** and **March 26**. Check with Rev. Terre to confirm meeting information before attending.

Alliance usually meets on the **2nd and 4th Thursdays** and for special events. Watch your email and announcements for March dates and events.

MUUVies that Matter will meet on **March 12** at 7 pm via Zoom.

Silent Book Club - 3rd Thursday of the month (meets **March 21**) at 6:30 pm. Please see flier for details and talk to DLE Courtney Sinha if you have any questions or need more info.

NEW THIS MONTH: Meditation Group - Starts **Monday, March 4** at 12:00 noon. Join Alexandra in U-House each Monday for a meaningful meditation moment on your lunch break and start your week off from a centered space.

NEW THIS MONTH: Creating Theology Together - Starts **Thursday, February 29** at 6:00 pm. This hands-on 5 class series is co-facilitated by DLE Courtney Sinha and Rev. Makaanah Morriss. Class is offered hybrid - online via zoom and in-person, though in-person attendance is encouraged where possible.

Children and Youth Religious Education Offerings in March

Our Pre-K to 4th grade classes continue with the Soul Matters curriculum on Sunday mornings. This month they will be exploring the theme of Transformation.

Our 5th to 8th grade classes will continue *Building a Better World* as they design their ideal RPG world.

Multigenerational Offerings in March

All-congregation Easter Service on **March 31**. There will be no Religious Education classes or Nursery Child Care available on this date. Please join us in the sanctuary!

There may be more social opportunities in March, so watch the weekly eBlast and the Facebook group for announcements.



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:

- March 3 D-M**
- March 10 N-Z**
- March 17 A-C**
- March 24 SOUP/SPUD SUNDAY**
- March 31 D-M**

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.

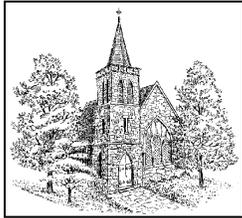
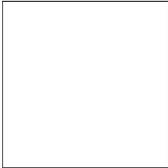
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
						
9:30 am Discussion Group 10:30 am Service " What Odyssey Brought Us Here " [see p.1] Rev. Terre Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR	12:00 pm Meditation Mondays [see p. 6] 7:00 pm Committee On Ministry	7:00 pm mUuVies that Matter [see p. 3] 7:00 pm Young Adult Group	7:00 pm Connections Committee	12:00 pm Alliance [see p. 3] 6:00 pm Creating Theology Together [see p. 5]	8	9
9:30 am Discussion Group 10:30 am Service " Journey of Devotion " [see p.1] Rev. Terre Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR 12:00 pm Sunday Services Committee	12:00 pm Meditation Mondays [see p. 6]	7:00 pm mUuVies that Matter [see p. 3] 7:00 pm Young Adult Group	6:30 pm Board Meeting	12:00 pm Alliance [see p. 3] 6:00 pm Creating Theology Together [see p. 5]	15	16
9:30 am Discussion Group 10:30 am Service " After The Fall " [see p.1] Joan Lewis Yoder, Rev. Terre Generosity Sunday Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR	12:00 pm Meditation Mondays [see p. 6]	7:00 pm JART meeting [see p.4]	NUUSLETTER DEADLINE 3:00 pm BookwUUrms [see p. 3]	6:30 – 8:30 pm Silent Book Club [see p. 5]	22	9:00 am – 12:00 pm Workday [see p. 4]
9:30 am Discussion Group 10:30 am Service " Building Our Belief " [see p.1] Rev. Terre Religious Education 11:30 am SOUP OR SPUD SUNDAY	12:00 pm Meditation Mondays [see p. 6]	6:30 pm Young Adult Group	6:30 pm Soul Matters Group	11:30 am Alliance [see p. 3] 6:00 pm Creating Theology Together [see p. 5]	29	30
9:30 am Discussion Group 10:30 am Service " Multi-Generational Easter " [see p.1] Courtney Sinha, Rev. Terre, and Friends Religious Education 11:30 am COFFEE HOUR						



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lynchburg

818 Court Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



THIS MONTH: • Church Workday, 3/23; p4

- Soup or Spud Sunday; 3/24; p.5
- Mindfulness Meditation, every Monday; p.6

Church Staff

Rev. Terre Balof.....Minister
Maile Shay-MountainAdministrative Assistant
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)

Office Phone:

(434) 528-0744

Email:

office@uulynchburg.org

Website:

www.uulynchburg.org

**Content Deadline
for the April nUUsletter:**

Wednesday March 20th

Submit Info at:

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

Jane Pianowski Fagiano, 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 nUUsletter mailing list, please leave a message at (434) 528-0744 or email office@uulynchburg.org.