



THE CHALICE

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK (UUFRA-VA)

P.O. Box 1266
White Stone, VA 22578

March 2018

Fellowship Services

Fellowship services are held each **Sunday** at **10:30 A.M.** at 366 James Wharf Road, White Stone, VA.

Meditation is held each Sunday from 9:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. in the sanctuary.

All are welcome. Coffee and conversation follow the service.

Sunday Programs

March 4

Rev. Doug McCusker: Hidden Diversities

We all have our own closets where we think we are safe. But, closets are no place to live! Closets are hard conversations about ourselves that we are afraid to have because of the reaction that we expect from others. Bringing one's real self out into the world carries risks and rewards. Opening closets adds to the rich diversity of our interdependent web of life. Join Rev. Doug McCusker as he rummages in his closet and invites us to do the same.

Rev. Doug McCusker comes to us from 90 miles upstream. He is in his third year as the settled minister of the UU Fellowship of Fredericksburg. He also served at the UU Congregation of Rockville in Rockville, MD. Rev. Doug leads a prison ministry with the Humanist Group at the Coffeewood Correctional Center in Mitchells, VA. He earned his Masters of Divinity from Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago, IL. Before going into ministry, he retired from a 32-year career with the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. He and his spouse, Marie, live in Fredericksburg, and they have an adult child, Bree, who lives in Massachusetts.

UU Kids: The kids will join all of the

members of the fellowship for the first portion of the service. After Joys and Concerns, we will head back to the UU Kids space for some special programming.

March 11

Eva Ginsberg: Reflections on a Journey

Please join Eva as she reflects upon her developmental, interpersonal, and spiritual journey, paralleling music and words to mark particular milestones and moments.

Eva Ginsberg works as a clinical psychologist in Gloucester, VA. She was raised by her grandmother, Thea Marshall, in the beautiful Northern Neck of Virginia. Eva achieved her undergraduate degree from The College of William and Mary, and her doctorate degree from Antioch University New England. Eva and her husband, Chef Adam Ginsberg (SouperChefG), were married here at UUFRA-VA in 2013, and have a beautiful two-and-a-half year old daughter, Eden.

March 18

Rev. Alane Cameron Ford: You Had One Job

This phrase has become a meme and a characterization of laziness, absurdity, and human frailty wrapped in one. Naturally, our speaker, Rev. Alane Cameron Ford, has been studying it through the lenses of philosophy, meditation, and religion. She will share her reflections and encourage yours.

Rev. Alane Cameron Ford received a Masters of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary and has served the UU Community Church in Glen Allen, VA, and the First UU Church of Richmond, VA. She works for James River Hospice and is the host of Death Club Radio on Richmond Independent Radio, WRIR 97.3 (www.wrir.org), on Thursdays at 12:30 PM. She is newlywed with Phil Ford, and they have three children.

UU Kids: Programming will be offered for both kids and teens. Weather permitting, we'll be outside for part of the hour, so please be sure your UU Kids come dressed for outdoor activity.

March 25

Scott Mabe: The Puzzles of Evil and Altruism

Scott will explore the Puzzles of Evil and Altruism as they are expressed in human behavior. Is evil, defined as something that is morally wrong and causes harm or pain to others, an inherited part of being human or does it have to be learned? Likewise, is altruism, defined as charitable acts that are motivated purely by desire to help other people, inherited or learned?

Scott is an amateur organic gardener whose main focus, this time of year, is preparing his gardens and beginning tomato transplants in his greenhouses. Scott and his wife, Beth, live in Middlesex County. Scott earned his

graduate degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to his retirement, Scott was a family counselor for 25 years, and later taught sociology and psychology at Rappahannock Community College for 15 years.

Who's That?

Scott Mabe reminds us to wear our UUFR-VA name tags. New folks are appreciative, and the memory-impaired feel younger. See Scott for a new name tag.

Servetus Grants

Michael Servetus, the brilliant scientist/medical doctor/philosopher who was burned at the stake in Geneva in 1553 for his Unitarian beliefs, is the namesake of our Servetus Endowment. Your Trustees are pleased to announce that the buoyant market conditions over the last year have made it possible to expand our Faith-In-Action activities within our four-county community through our Servetus Fund. Programs both within and outside the fellowship are eligible to receive Servetus Fund grants.

Our 2017 scholarship recipients may receive additional funds, as needed. The 2018 UUFR-VA Servetus Scholarship winners will be determined in the next few months. The Trustees can accept grant applications for programs for children from difficult socio-economic conditions in the areas of health and development from prenatal through pre-kindergarten and post-secondary education through, but not limited to, scholarships. The Fund can also support and promote local creative arts, such as music, dance, drama, writing, fabric arts, and various fine crafts that are otherwise not strongly supported in our four counties.

Please share your suggestions for programs and recipients with your Trustees: *Barbara Haynes, Janet Hemming, and Tom Kinney*

Leadership Corner

Imagine That!

by Shirley Kinney

About fifteen years ago, back when UUFRR-VA was a fledgling fellowship, meeting at the White Stone Woman's Club, founding member, Audrey Brainard, challenged me to lead a group to decorate a Christmas tree and donate it to the YMCA Festival of Trees fundraiser. Audrey persisted and, with a generous donation from Brown Mobley to fund the art supplies for the project, the group of four met to begin work on the decorations. Lynda Weber, Fran Schelling, Audrey, and I designed and created a 'natural' look for our tree, using gourds and seedpods and pine cone critters. The tree looked amazing. And, apparently, others thought so as well, since the UUFRR-VA entry won the People's Favorite award.

After that first project, the group was ready for more. We became the Imagine That! Art Group. We met once a month, with the goal of exploring whatever art medium struck our fancy. We didn't care how artistic we were, just how much fun we had learning new methods and materials. We tried hot wax encaustic, beading, collage, painted wood houses, gourd Santas, intricately painted gourds, embellished cigar boxes (donated by Bob Weekley,) and, of course, several more YMCA Christmas trees.

We got so good at our artistic endeavors that we set up a booth each month at the Irvington Farmers Market and sold most of our creations. With the money raised, we continued to stock our art supplies, and also were able to purchase the UUFRR-VA chalice we light each Sunday. We also chipped in \$500 to help purchase the lectern and chalice stands.

By this time, our numbers had grown. We learned more techniques. We just got better and better. We no longer sell our wares at the Farmers Market. Instead, we take our artwork

home to adorn our own abodes.

Does exploring different art media sound intriguing to you? Do you wish you were artistic but don't know how to begin? Why not join our group and find out just how great you can be? We're all beginners, so you needn't worry on that score. This year we're even thinking about taking some classes at RAL together to expand our range. If you'd like to join us, just contact me or talk to Eve Jordan or Marge Rowden and we'll put you on the contact list. We meet usually once a month at my studio from about 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. We'd love to have you join us!

New Members!

by Janet Hemming

We were pleased to welcome three new members to UUFRR-VA in the last two months. Katie Turner and her dad, Jim, (who are relatives of our dear Larry Graves) joined in late January. Don Kenefick joined us in February.

Look for more information on our newest members in a future Chalice.

Take Time to Say "Thank You"

The first meetings of what became our fellowship occurred in 1998, 20 years ago this year. Through the ongoing generosity of those who have gone before, and those who we sit next to on Sunday mornings, we have avoided for these 20 years the typical church every-member-canvas and pledging to fund our needs and dreams. That deserves a moment of your time to turn to that person next to you next Sunday to say, "Thank you."

Through their efforts and yours, our members are supported here in our Home of Our Own with no ongoing financial encumbrances. Through their efforts and yours, we have funded the Endowment maintaining our Pathways of Remembrance and boosted our building expansion account. And, through their efforts and yours, nearly \$500,000 has

been raised in support of our fellowship's Faith-in-Action Kids First toward ending generational poverty in our community. And, through their efforts and yours, our Servetus Endowment Fund is now providing scholarships and community service grants.

Yes, we do great and meaningful things here that really do make a difference. Please remember to turn to your fellow members on Sunday to say, "Thank you for helping the fellowship to be everything it can be." Your Finance Committee: *MJ Anderson, Paula Greenwood, Barbara Haynes, Janet Hemming, Tom Kinney, Lynn Langley, and Gus Shelton.*

River Readers

The book discussion group meets on the **fourth Monday** of each month at **2:30 P.M.** at the Lancaster Community Library. Everyone is welcome. Please read the book and join us. The upcoming selections are:

March 26: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

April 23: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

May 28: *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders

If you have a recommendation for a noteworthy book to discuss, please contact **Elaine Weekley.**

UUFRA-VA Activities at a Glance

March 2018	
Mar 16	Ladies' Luncheon - 12:30 A.M. – ICYCC
Mar. 26	River Readers - 2:30 P.M. – Lancaster Community Library

Activities Group: Peny Gallogly, Diana Jamison, Vicki Kinsel

UWomenspirit Spring Retreat

by Lisa Sherman, UWomenspirit Marketing and Outreach Coordinator
May 16-20, 2018

UWomenspirit is a non-profit, volunteer-run group that has hosted all-women retreats since 1987. Our retreats emphasize and celebrate the Divine Feminine in her many forms. The next retreat will be held on May 16-20, 2018, at The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center in Highlands, NC.

The theme for our spring event is *Inviting the Sacred Into Our Lives.* During the event, we will explore the many wondrous yet simple ways we can bring the sacred into our lives every day. Daily offerings include workshops, activities, and worship services with a group of amazing women. The venue for the event, The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center, is nestled deep in the beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Highlands, NC. In this beautiful setting, the surrounding views of nature will connect you to the sacred on a whole new level.

The brochure with detailed information about the workshops and other offerings will be available in late February or early March 2018 on our website, www.uuwomenspirit.org, and registration for the retreat will begin in mid-March. For more information about UWomenspirit and our upcoming and past events, please visit our website. Information about The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center can be found at themountainrlc.org.



**UUWomenspirit
Spring 2018 Retreat**

**The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center
Highlands, NC
Institute: May 16-18
Gathering: May 18-20**

*an empty bowl
holding space
is also full*

Artwork created by Penny Featherstone
Lettering and logo design by Carole Dixon
www.uuwomenspirit.org



Bring your sacred self to The Mountain this spring to be refilled. Let us gather once again with other women as we hold space together and invite the sacred into our lives. We will embark on interior journeys that welcome and celebrate the Goddess in every aspect of our days.



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Ruth Micklem, President
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Web Site

<http://www.uufrappahannock.org>
<http://www.uufr-va.org>
Bob Prescott, Webmaster

Newsletter

Deadline for articles: 20th of the month
Bob Prescott, Editor (editor@uufrappahannock.org)