



August 2017 Newsletter

Message from the President...

During the past year, this congregation has made great strides in revitalizing the church building. By Fall, the classrooms will be ready for children from pre-K to high school. This summer, we have the privilege of becoming a teaching congregation with the internship of Tyler Coles. It is now time to revitalize the interpersonal relationships within our walls. If we can achieve open dialog with each other, great things can come to this church.

But first, we must face an “inconvenient truth”. The Stewardship, aka Pledge campaign, did not meet its goal this year. The Board is now faced with the possibility of making some cuts in the budget. It is a painful thing to have to do. After some hand-wringing and discussion, the Board has identified several probable factors. These include:

- Starting the campaign too late
- Starting the campaign with an event that did not make our financial goals clear
- Some members angry and frustrated about staff changes
- Some members who have grown older with physical and financial problems
- Some members who are unhappy with the Board/Minister for all the above reasons

These are legitimate complaints but the folks with these complaints have not come forward to voice them. Instead, they have withheld their pledges. This is very frustrating for the Board. Unless we are fully aware of the size and scope of problems, how can we work toward solving them? Withholding pledges without sharing the reason why *hurts the entire church*.

In the coming weeks, members of the Board are going to reach out in person, either by phone call, email, or written note to contact those who have withheld their pledges. Please share with us your concerns and questions. All we ask is that the discourse is civil and constructive so that it may give us a direction to go.

Spike Harrison
Board President



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...from the Rev

One of our newest members, relocating to Roanoke from elsewhere, told me the story of how in his far-away UU congregation, they did barebones church in July and August, with very few people showing up. This new congregant of ours went on to say that July and August stood in **stark contrast** to all the other months of the year when the church was busy beyond belief, so crowded that there was always standing room only, two services and a committee working to figure out how to put an addition on the church.

While I wish for us the same level of dynamism, I yearn more for us to have some **stark contrast** of a different nature. I yearn for our stark contrast, not to be of radical differences in attendance (amazingly good summer attendance at UUCR!) but rather to be of radical difference in mood and feeling amongst us.

These last two years of our congregational life were difficult. I'm hoping for a much easier year ahead. My deepest hope is that with our internal institutional challenges largely addressed that we can focus much more intently on the challenges of living our calls to heal into the larger world.

I pray that we can enjoy ourselves much more this coming year.

I'm especially inspired by UU newcomers, like the source of the story with which I started this piece, who are happy to find UUCR and sense great possibility here. May those of us who have been here a while greet our newcomers enthusiastically, learn from them, and act to exceed their wildest hopes about what a UU congregation can be.

Hoping too that these last Dog Days of summer delight us all!

Much heart, RevAlex



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Greetings from Tyler Coles...

Friends,

This morning, I find myself preparing for yet another adventure as I soon depart for a professional development day in Arlington, VA. While I have taken part in a number of one-day professional conferences and training events, this particular gathering excites me for a number of reasons. Besides the wonderful opportunity to gather with other Unitarian Universalists, the topic of this particular convening is entitled *Unitarian Universalist History, Theology, - and Race*, presented by the Rev. Natalie Fenimore. As provocative as the title appears, I am unsure of what the content will stir within me, and as such, I know that it will inevitably cause me to stretch and grow.

This action of expansion, like a rubber band, is a constant spiritual metaphor for me along my journey of ministerial formation. And it is in the most unexpected ways and in the unforeseen moments that I grow. While my time as your Summer Minister is coming to a close at the end of August. I want to thank each of you for aiding me in my transformation, to become more than who I was when I arrived. This is often apart of the mystery of life, to become anew over and over again.

I leave you all with this prayer:

Spirit of Life,

Fortify us in our task ahead in whatever it may be.

Big or small. Known or unknown. May we be fortified
in the love of community, the warmth of commitment, and the
hope of the Kingdom to come.

Aśe, So Be It, and Amen.

In Faith & Resistance,
Tyler



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Summer RE News

Join us in the Olin room at 7 pm on Wednesdays for shared viewing of our summer film series. We'll do some conversational unpacking of what each week's film might call us to do and be. Feel free to bring friends and snacks! Movie titles will be announced in Sunday Services.

Happy Summer, RevAlex

Fall RE News

Registration has now opened for fall Children's Religious Education classes. Register children and youth for the Nursery, RE classes for PreK through grade 8, and YRUU online at <https://goo.gl/forms/zEwwzYtadSW1aNdE3>. Teachers needed. Contact our new Director of Lifespan Faith Development, Alan Moore, at amoore@uuraonoke.org.

YRUU News

YRUU youth continue to participate in the monthly Pack-a-Snack program by packing *100 bags* for two weeks each. The need continues to rise, which is why it is so important UUOR continue to donate *snack size nutritional* foods to this worthy cause. Thank you for all the continued support. YRUU Advisor, Bonnie Evans



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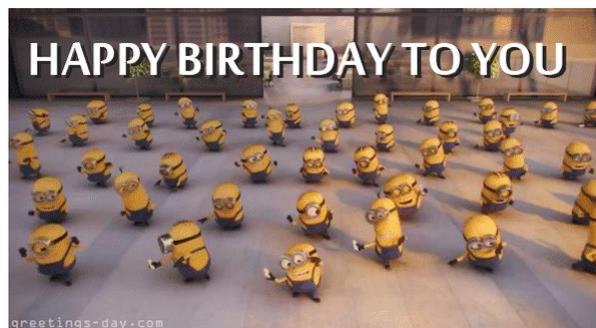
UU Connection Team News

Newcomer Meet up

Sunday, August 20, 12:30 - 2 pm

Olin Room

The Connections team is hosting another Newcomer Meet up on Sunday August 20, 12:30 - 2:00, at the UU church in the Olin room. This is an informal event to get to know each other, learn more about UU, and how to get involved. New Families and Individuals are welcome. Child care will be provided. Lunch will be a Salad Bar theme with participants contributing a topping, or side dish. Contact Megan Brauch by August 10 to RSVP.



Happy Birthday from your Connection Team!!!

Eileen Lepro, Evelyn Danner, Julia Felts, Mary Harshfield, Jane Harrison, Nora Smith, Jeanne Larsen, Misti Williams, Christine Yates, Oliver Mills, Micy Lynch, and Cindy Honeycutt



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UUCR Service Auction





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UUCR Service Auction Time!

As unbelievable as it seems, our 2017 Service Auction is around the corner! If you haven't already done so, please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 14th. Our theme this year is **OktoberFest**. Lederhosen and other appropriate apparel optional but welcome!

It is absolutely time to start planning what you will donate to make this, our second-largest fundraiser, the most successful one yet. If you already know what you'd like to donate, please email Sheri Bernath at writerwoman48@yahoo.com. If it's an event, include the date and time, and any description you want. We'll start producing the brochure very shortly.

Watch for more information soon. As always, finger-foods and our cash-donation bar will start off our Social hour at 5 pm. The Silent Auction will also begin at 5:00. Live auction begins promptly at 6 pm.

Please think about what you'd like to donate and get that information to Sheri as soon as possible.

Your Auction committee



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UURoanoke.org

A new professional website has been implemented! There will be photos, updates, and more information to come so please continue to visit the website anytime. The website will be your tool for what's happening at UUCR. If you have any questions, email Megan at MBrauch@UURoanoke.org

Music at UUCR

Appalachian Song rehearsals are on Wednesdays, 7 - 8 pm and will run through the summer. Contact Kerry Morgiewicz , UUCR Music Director.

Let's work together, and be respectful of all our musical instruments. Please do not put food, drinks, or any other items on our instruments or pianos. Please remember that we want you to enjoy the music and sermons as part of your personal spiritual practice. Feel free to kneel, cry, or even dance, but please do not record.



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The Green Team presents Earth Friendly Friday **GLOBAL WARMING**

August 11, 2017

Social time at 6:30 pm (snacks welcome)

Program begins at 7:00 pm

Dave Roper's grasp of the many details surrounding this complex issue is vast. His ability to translate the information into graphics and language readily understood by most folks is a priceless asset. Some of what we will hear and see is familiar, but what he will share is very current, interesting, and compelling. Though you are likely in agreement on this issue, Dave's presentation will be helpful in your interactions with those less informed, or too distracted to care.

In the years since Dave retired from Virginia Tech in 1998, he's devoted his time to studying global warming, fossil-fuels depletion, and renewable energy. He earned his undergraduate degree in physics/math/chemistry from Oklahoma Baptist University and his PhD in theoretical physics from MIT. He joined Tech's physics department in 1967 and while there, discovered the Roper Resonance, a heavy proton. He has done research in particle physics, biophysics, and resource depletion. He designed and helped build the Roper Solar Greenhouse in Blacksburg's Hale-YMCA Community Garden in 2007. He served on the boards of Habitat for Humanity of the New River Valley, Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program, Valley Interfaith Child Care Center, and Sustainable Blacksburg. Dave drives a Chevrolet Bolt EV while promoting electric cars and the installation of more public charging stations. He's in the queue for a Tesla Model 3.

This program is sponsored by the **Roanoke Group of the Sierra Club**. Programs are held on the second Friday of each month at UUCR. Snacks for the social time before & after the presentation are welcome but not required. For more information contact Dan Crawford at dbcrawford@cox.net.

Visit these websites for further information:

Sierra Club website <http://sites.google.com/site/roanokesierra/>

UUCR Green Team website <http://uuroanoke.org/main/green-team/>

All programs are free and open to the public.



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We want to say **THANK YOU** to all our volunteers

If you'd like to volunteer, email Megan.

August 6 27

Life Lines:
Jane Harrison

A/V:
Adam Honeycutt

Head Usher
Dick Hawkins

Lead Greeter
Chris Yates

Coffee Team
Pam Yates

August 13

Life Lines:
Beth Caruthers

A/V:
Bob Egbert

Head Usher
Michael Gettings

Lead Greeter
Nancy Brattain

Coffee Team
Dennis McKim

August 20

Life Lines:
Sally Garber

A/V:
Betsy Biesenbach

Head Usher:
Dennis McKim

Lead Greeter:
Lydia Woerner

Coffee Team
James Rosar

August 27

Life Lines
Judie Lallmang

A/V:
Todd Hannabass

Head Usher
Henry W. & Anne P.

Lead Greeter
Judy Robertson

Coffee Team
Ron & Robin Salzbach



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Volunteer Opportunities

A/V Team

A backup A/V person is needed. If you are willing, your basic orientation and training can begin immediately. Contact Bob Egbert at canyonlake76@gmail.com.

Greeters

Greeters are part of a team, usually three people, who come early on Sunday and welcome visitors and friends. This is a fun opportunity to connect to all members and friends, welcome visitors, and bring joy to our community. Contact Nancy Brattain or anyone on the Connections Team.

Coffee Committee

After service on Sunday, the Fellowship Coffee Team makes coffee and tea and helps serve those who wish to stay after services. We are looking for two or three volunteers to help once a month or to fill in when needed. Contact Megan Brauch.

Ram House

Every fourth Saturday each month, a crew of individuals from UUCR travels to RAM House, located downtown on Campbell Avenue, to help serve the noon meal. On Saturday, July 22, the following UUCR members generously donated their time and energy to help: Nora Smith, Kathy Ratliff, John Goodhart, David McCall, and Dick Hawkins. Contact Dick Hawkins at richhawk10@aol.com or 774-9137.



August 2017 Newsletter



PresenterMedia

August Events at UUCR

Monday, July 31st

1 pm Board reports due

Tuesday, August 1st

4 - 5pm Endowment Committee meeting, location TBD

6 - 7:30 pm Board Executive meeting, Olin room

7 - 9 pm Caring Team meeting, Broker room

Wednesday, August 2

6 - 7 pm Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall

7 - 8 pm Appalachian song rehearsals, Sanctuary

7 - 8:30 pm RE Summer Movie Series, Olin room

Thursday, August 3

12:30 - 1:30 pm Men's luncheon, Olin room

Sunday, August 6th

11am "A Complicated Bounty" with Tyler Coles

12:30 - 2:30 pm Clean and Climate Energy rally followed by a potluck lunch

Tuesday, August 8th

6:30 - 8:30 pm Board meeting, Olin room

Wednesday, August 9th

All Day Church office closed

11 am - 12 pm Staff meeting, Olin room

12 - 1 pm Sunday services meeting, Olin room

6 - 7 pm Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall

7 - 8 pm Appalachian song rehearsals, Sanctuary

7 - 8:30 pm RE Summer Movie series, Olin room



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Thursday, August 10th

All Day Church office closed
12:30 - 1:30 pm Men's luncheon
5:30 - 7:30 pm Connection Team meeting, Olin room

Friday, August 11th

All Day Church office closed
6:30 - 8:30 pm Earth Friendly Fridays, Sanctuary

Sunday, August 13

11:00 am **Worship service, TBA**

Wednesday, August 16

6 - 7 pm Tai Chi class, Fellowship Hall
7 - 8 pm Appalachian song rehearsals, Sanctuary
7 - 8:30 pm RE Summer Movie series, Olin Room

Thursday, August 17

12:30 - 1:30 pm Men's luncheon, Olin

Friday, August 18

6:30 - 8:30 pm We Are Family, Community ARTS performance, Sanctuary

Sunday, August 20

11:00 am **"A Balm in Gilead" with Tyler Coles
(his final summer service)**
12:30 - 2 pm Newcomer Meet Up, Olin room

Monday, August 21

3pm Newsletter deadline

Tuesday, August 22

6:30 - 9 pm Shared Ministry Committee meeting, Olin



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Wednesday, August 23

- 6 - 7 pm Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
- 7 - 9 pm Appalachian song rehearsals, Sanctuary
- 7 - 8:30 pm RE summer movie series, Olin room

Thursday, August 24

- 12:30 - 1:30 pm Men's luncheon

Sunday, August 27

- 11 am **"The Sacred Tree" with Alan Moore, DLFD**

Wednesday, August 30

- 6 - 7 pm Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
- 7 - 9 pm Appalachian Song rehearsals, Sanctuary
- 7 - 8:30 pm RE Summer Movie series, Olin room

Thursday, August 31

- 12:30 - 1:30 pm Men's luncheon

Friday, September 1st

- 3pm Board reports due
- All Day Kroger Plus card re-enrollment. Please re-enroll UUCR!

Sunday, September 3

- 11 am **Worship service**

Monday, September 4

- Labor Day Church office closed

Tuesday, September 5

- 6 - 7:30 pm Board Executive meeting, Olin room
- 7 - 9 pm Caring Team meeting, Broker room



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Wednesday, September 6

- 6 - 7 pm Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
7 - 9 pm Appalachian Song rehearsals, Sanctuary

Thursday, September 7

- 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Women's group, Fellowship Hall
12:30 - 1:30 pm Men's luncheon, Olin room
7 - 8:30 pm Roanoke Rainbow Families and Forums

Friday, September 8

- 6:30 - 8:30 pm Earth Friendly Fridays

Sunday, September 10

- 9:30 - 10:45 am Living the Questions class, new series begins
11 am **"Water Communion" with RevAlex**
12:30 - 2:30 pm Youth Fellowship, YRUU room

Living the Questions Class

The Living the Questions class will resume their Sunday morning classes on September 10th with a serious assessment of religion's damage to our planet and a description of a new religion which could save it. We will read and discuss Lloyd Geering's latest book *Coming Back To Earth, From gods, to God, to Gaia*. Each participant is urged to purchase their own book. Please join us in the Olin room at 9:30 am. All are welcome. Contact Gene Edmunds with questions at gene.edmunds@gmail.com.



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Caring Committee - Joys and Concerns

Contact Sally Garber for joys, concerns, or questions at jcssgarber@comcast.net.

Connie Ferguson -

Connie reports that her father has cancer of the liver and hospice has been contacted. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Ronald Wilson -

Ronald is looking for help for his cousin. Frances is seeking affordable apartment or housing for rent. Anyone who has or knows of an available space please let Ronald know.

Inez Good's 94th birthday party -

The UUCR Caring Committee invites you to a celebration in honor of Inez's 94th birthday. The celebration will take place at The Park Oak Grove, July 30 from 2-4 pm.

If you have a confidential joy or concern you would like to share with the minister, please put your request in the locked box on the podium. It is located in the alcove next to the name tag board.



Social Media

To create an online presence that best represents UUCR to the Roanoke Valley, our social media sites have been deleted. We plan to have a new, vastly improved, highly professional Facebook page revealed in the coming months after training in social media policies and procedures. When our new Facebook page is ready, you will receive both an announcement and a link.

A new professional website has been implemented! There will be updates, photos and more information to come so continue to visit the website. The website will be your tool for what's happening at UUCR. UUroanoke.Org.



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RevAlex Richardson

Email: ARichardson@UUroanoke.org | Mobile: (336) 471-5580
RevAlex would love to meet with you so stop by to say hello. Call for an appointment.

Tyler Coles, Summer Minister

Email: BTColes@gmail.com | Mobile: (540) 597-6905
Tyler would love to meet with you Monday - Wednesday. Call for an appointment.

Alan Moore, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Email: AMoore@UUroanoke.org | Mobile: (540) 818-4964

Kerry Morgiewicz, Music Director

Email: KMorgiewicz@UUroanoke.org | Home: (540) 989-3190

Megan Brauch, Congregational Administrator

Email: MBrauch@UUroanoke.org | Mobile: (540) 797-6045

Board of Directors

President	Spike Harrison	540-389-3054	harrisonspike24@gmail.com
President Elect	Cy Dillon	540-387-1111	cdillon@hsc.edu
Past-President	Jeannie Berger	540-915-1508	jeanniebb2016@gmail.com
V.P. Finance	Carl Reed	540-265-1861	reedcarl79@gmail.com
Board Clerk	Sheri Bernath	540-345-8115	writerwoman48@yahoo.com
Personnel	Laura Latham	540-556-6230	eljaeo8@gmail.com
Members at Large	Michele Peppers	540-815-3988	bellapeppers@verizon.net
	Beverly Telfer	540-904-7271	bev_telf@hotmail.com
	Claire English	540-343-7576	cenglish8@cox.net
Nominating	James Rosar	540-641-1519	raamster540@gmail.com
	Jessie McKeon	540-352-9683	jessielmckeon@gmail.com
	Gary Crawford	540-362-1778	gary_crawford@cox.net



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Ministry Team Leaders

Sunday Services	Bill Bestpitch	540-761-6566	william.bestpitch@outlook.com
Building & Grounds	Megan Brauch	540-342-8888	mbrauch@uuroanoke.org
Building Enhancement	Jane Haddad	540-774-7258	janehaddad@cox.net
Connections	Nancy Brattain	540-400-8283	nbrattain@cox.net
Caring Committee	Sally Garber	540-977-2215	jcssgarber@comcast.net
Reading Seeds	Amy Hatheway	540-580-6907	abowhead@hotmail.com
OUUT/LGBTQ	Jessie McKeon	540-352-9683	jessielmckeon@gmail.com
Green Team	Bob Egbert	540-384-7448	canyonlake76@gmail.com

Additional Valued Assistants

Newsletter/Web	Sheri Bernath / Megan Brauch
IT/Web	Matt Scott and Justin Moore (OneStopPC)
Social Media Moderator	Jessie McKeon
Music Assistant	Beth Caruthers
Office Assistant	Linda Wallis
YRUU	Bonnie Evans
Reading Seeds assistant	Caryl Connolly
Treasurers	Anne Marie Patterson Martha Boswell Joanne Derryberry Chris Jordan

Unitarian Universalist Church of Roanoke

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