Upcoming Worship

January 7, 2018 – "Torda 450 – Ancestors & Archetypes" with RevAlex
Historical legacies afford opportunity for each of us to mine human experience for greater gift. This Sunday, on which we remember the extraordinary 450-year-old legacy of Unitarian courage, we hope to garner new insight and resolve towards acting similarly in our own time. Come, Come to give thanks for inspirational legacy!

January 14, 2018 – In celebration of Martin Luther King Sunday, Lauren Ellerman will be speaking on Jim Wallis’s book entitled America’s Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege and the Bridge to a New America. She will help us better understand the underlying causes of the racial divides that continue to cause so much strife in our society. Come with an open mind and an open heart, and leave with renewed commitment to bridging the divide.

January 21, 2018 – "The Call to Public Witness" with RevAlex
We continue our congregational effort to discern how best to capitalize on our great location at the corner of Brandin and Grandin. It’s a Sunday of remembering what we’ve already done to be of public witness and to ponder, perhaps even choose, what we do next. Come, Come to hear of courageous UUCR work past, present and yet to be!

January 28, 2018 – "The Annual State of the Congregation Address from Your Minister" with RevAlex
Our minister addresses the congregation today on how he perceives our gifts and challenges as we prepare for all that we’ll do through the rest of the new calendar year. It’s a Sunday of ministerial assessment of our congregation. Come, Come to celebrate the great gifts and challenges of committing to congregation.

February 4, 2018 – "Connection and Commitment" with RevAlex
We unpack the possibility of Stewardship today. We’ll go deep into historical understandings of what it meant to be stewards of our faith. We’ll also hear of the possible that we could chose for ourselves. Come, Come to wrestle with the extent of connection and commitment you might be called to make to your congregation!
from the President...

An Easy New Year’s Resolution To Keep

When Jane and I are driving in our car, we listen to Public Radio. Others may tune in when they are doing the dishes or resting their screen-weary eyes. Still others may be seeking smart, fact-based analysis of current events. There are many choices like Fresh Air, Radio Lab, Snap Judgement, The People’s Pharmacy, and All Things Considered, just to name a few. There is truly something for everybody.

It’s a safe bet that some of you first heard about UUCR, thanks to a sponsorship announcement after a newscast, during a talk show, or as a lead-in to music. I’ll bet that many of you feel proud to think we UUs are supporting quality, on-air journalism, like NPR or BBC, during a time when it is so sorely needed.

What is embarrassing, however, is the poor financial support we provide to our public radio station, WVTF/Radio IQ. In relation to the other UU congregations around us. At $290 per year, we rank last of the five churches in our region. This is a bit deceiving because some, including us, have contributed independently in the past. We need to pool our resources and combat the proponents of “alternate truths” who would wish to do away with public radio altogether. We as a congregation should be contributing over $1000 per year.

So here I am asking you to pitch in by channeling your tax-deductible donation through UUCR. Just be sure to write “Fund 1050, Public Radio” at the bottom of your check. Every penny will go to WVTF/Radio IQ. In return, they will make sponsorship announcements, letting listeners know we are here and welcoming. Our new Sponsorship coordinator, Bob Egbert, can tell you much more. Many thanks to Bob for taking on this good work; now it’s up to the rest of us to do our part: donating a few bucks every six months to support quality public radio!!

Spike

from the Rev...

One of the best things that’s come my way recently is one of you putting me onto how I can use super glue to heal the painful cold weather splits of skin at the corners of each of my thumbnails. Learning this new trick of good winter self-care has saved me much physical discomfort. Fact is that I won’t be surprised to hear myself say in late life that this teaching was one of the best things UUCR gave me. Yes!

I’m fairly certain too that the one of you who taught me this new trick had no idea of how valuable it would be to me. Such is the nature of many of the thousands of little miracles that play out amongst us as we come and go in the life of our congregation. Much wonderful gift is given without ever the donor knowing.

I hope into all our congregation’s future that each of us will better remember that the simplest expressions of care, one to another, may be of much greater value to those to whom we give than we will ever know. I hope remembering this will ever inspire each of us to greater generosity.

And to those of us who’ve realized great value from what someone has given, please let your someone know. Tell them how what seemed of little consequence has made your life better. As we do more and more of this type of spiritual work, we grow in spiritual abundance.

I have thanked my super glue teacher!

Thousands of little miracles, week after week, in the life of congregation.
May it ever be so.

Happy, Happy New Year!
RevAlex
Adult RE:

Sundays | 9:30 am: Living the Questions Class, Olin Room
A new series begins on January 7, and will continue for six weeks. We will be discussing Brené Brown's book Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone. Social scientist Brown has sparked a global conversation about the experiences that bring meaning to our lives in an age of increased polarization. Participants are urged to purchase their own books, but a copy is also available for check-out in the library. All are welcome! If you have any questions, contact Gene Edmunds - gene.edmunds@gmail.com

Tuesday, Jan 30 | 6 pm: New Discussion Group!
The Sun magazine monthly discussion group, Olin Room. This month's issue is available for check-out. See Alan at amoore@uuroanoke.org

Children and Youth RE:

Sundays | 11:00 am: Worship Service and Children's RE
Classes resume on Sunday, January 7, 2018.

- Ages 0-3: Nursery playtime!
- Pre-K, The Rainbow Connection: Building connections with the 7 Unitarian Universalist Principles
- Grades K-2, Dr. Seuss: Stories and crafts with the beloved UU Doctor
- Grades 3-5, Hogwarts: witches and wizards use their magic to fight the evils of injustice
- Grades 6-8, The Twilight Zone: viewing and discussion of thought provoking series from UU Rod Serling

Sundays | 5:00 pm: YRUU
Our youth-directed high school youth group.
Upcoming:

Sunday, Jan 7: Children’s RE, Adult RE, and Nursery care resume
Sunday, Jan 7 | 5:00 pm: YRUU high school youth group Holiday Supper, TBA

Friday, Jan 12 | 5:30-9:30 pm: YRUU visits UUC NRV for youth-organized film & discussion: An Inconvenient Sequel

Sunday, Jan 14 | 12:30 pm: YRUU Soup Fundraiser for Mountain Con 2018, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Jan 21 | 12:30 pm: LFD Council meeting, Steeple Room

Sunday, Jan 28 | 11:00 am: Spring Children's RE classes begin

Tuesday, Jan 30 | 6:00 pm: New Discussion Group! See Adult RE above.

Fighting Child Slavery | Our January social action campaign for the Hogwarts class (grades 3 - 5).

It is estimated that there are 115 million children worldwide in forced labor. Here are some of the most common products that are manufactured or harvested using child slavery: Gold, Cotton, Sugar cane, Tobacco, Bricks, Coffee, Cattle, Garments, Coal, Cocoa, and Carpet.

Our Hogwarts class will be taking action with a Fair Trade Chocolate petition drive and fundraiser. Many thanks for your encouragement and support!

Register:

Children’s RE for Spring Semester will begin on Sunday 28 January. Rainbow Connection, Dr. Seuss, and Hogwarts classes will continue through May; Middle Schoolers will debut Simpsons 2.0, a newly developed curriculum based on social justice themes found in The Simpsons animated series, created by UU Matt Groening.

All children and youth need to be registered to fully participate in church activities. goo.gl/forms/USiJWRSrj4BgoLfN2 REGISTER HERE

Our Faith Development program needs new teaching volunteers for the Spring Semester (January - May). Each age group needs a teaching team of four; each teacher selects four weeks lead-teaching and four weeks assistant-teaching. Curricula and classroom materials are prepared in advance. Make a difference with our future church leaders! We also welcome advisors, substitutes, craft project leaders, child care providers, and other volunteers.

Volunteers are the heart of UUCR. Somewhere there is a need that matches your passion! Find out more at our ONLINE VOLUNTEER FORM goo.gl/forms/eura8QFJkYE61oPh2

THANK YOU!
The Green Team's Earth Friendly Friday presents...

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Jan. 12, 2018 – Social time 6:30 Program 7:00

Whether a birder, naturalist, or environmentalist, you will agree that what we owe the Audubon Society is beyond measure. Ed Kyle will share details of their history, contributions, and current programs. His visits to associated sanctuaries and National Wildlife Refuges will come to life through “oh wow” photography and stories enriched by Ed’s attention to details and passion for sharing priceless moments.

Ed is a retired clinical psychologist, originally from Lynchburg, and an alumnus of Virginia Tech and Virginia Commonwealth University. A former member of the Sierra Club’s Roanoke Group Executive Committee, Ed remains a solid supporter of local, national, and worldwide efforts to maintain quality of life on Earth. His parents’ backyard bird feeder and far-reaching curiosities sparked his early interest in birds and plants, and he still recalls his father pointing out the difference between a chickadee and a nuthatch. Ed, Barbara, and family are avid hikers, and like to know something about what they’re seeing along the way.

This program is sponsored by the UUCR and the Roanoke Group of the Sierra Club. Programs are held on the second Friday of each month at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 2015 Grandin Road SW, in Roanoke at the intersection with Brandon Avenue. Snacks for the social time before and after the presentation are welcome, but not required. For more information contact: Bob Egbert at canyonlake76@gmail.com

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
For more information on The Green Team visit our web page:
uuroanoke.org/we-are-on-a-mission/green-team

Bruce Sellers, Martha Boswell, Claire English, Pam Fisher, and Laura Latham

If you have a birthday and your name isn't listed please email mbrauch@uuroanoke.org to let us know your birthday month.
Shared Ministry Committee (SMC)

The SMC committee members are Lynn Yates, Chair; Betsy Biesenbach, Anne Perrin, Don Wages, Barbara Bockner, and Esther Johnson. The first meeting of the new year will be January 23rd. For further information about these topics and more, contact Lynn Yates at ljyates8@gmail.com

The Shared Ministry Committee will facilitate a series of Listening Circles to kick off the new year with a discussion of how we see ourselves living our values out into the world. Springing from the *UU World* article that RevAlex referenced in a recent sermon, we want to discuss our ideas about the church’s role as activists in the public square. You are encouraged to read the article in preparation for the Listening Circle session. [Do You Have to be an Activist to be a Unitarian-Universalist?](#)

We invite you to participate in one of these sessions. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Fellowship Hall on January 7 for Listening Circles on
- Sunday, January 21, 12:30-2:30
- Thursday, January 25, 7:00-9:00 or
- Sunday, January 28, 12:30-2:30
Connections Team

Birthday Connections Sunday!
*January 7 during coffee hour following the worship service.*
The whole congregation is invited to stay for coffee and Birthday cake as we celebrate all 12 months of birthdays together. Meet your friends who share your birthday month and eat delicious cake! Seeking volunteers to bake cakes. Contact Nancy Brattain at nbrattain@cox.net.

2nd Annual UU Saloon Night. Jan 20, 7 – 9 pm (snow date: Jan 27)
Come enjoy a night of fun, laughter, games, line dancing, and food with your UU friends! Our own line dancers, Alice, Sheri, Louis, and Chris will be leading the dancing. Don't like to dance? Join the fun in cards and games. Snacks will be provided. BYOB. Child care will be available. Friends are welcome. The more the merrier!

Caring Committee – Joys and Concerns

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

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

**Jeannie Berger and Jason Garland**
Jeannie and Jason were married on Friday, December 15th. Congratulations to them!

**Bert Spetzler and Joanne Derryberry**
Bert and Joanne will be married on Saturday, December 23. Congratulations to them!

**Rachel Linette-Cook**
Please congratulate Rachel as she has been working for three years on her just-published book: *Once Upon A Lifestream Dream: A Metaphysical Search for Twin Flame Forever Love* by R.L. Cook, B.A. Now available at Amazon.

**Dr. Nancy Evans**
Dr. Nancy Evans, beloved colleague and friend of Ray Wurzburger passed away last week of cancer at the age of 56.
THANK YOU to all our volunteers!

December 31
Worship Associate - Bill Bestpitch
Lifelines - Judie Lallmang
A/V - Bob Egbert
Lead Greeter - Chris Yates
Coffee - Pam Yates

January 7
Life Lines - Sally Garber
A/V - Betsy Biesenbach
Head Usher - Jim Overholser
Lead Greeter -
Coffee - James Rosar
Recycling - Cindy Honeycutt

January 14
Worship Associate - Betsy Biesenbach
Life Lines - Beth Caruthers
A/V - Adam Honeycutt
Head Usher - Bruce Stewart and Barbara Horton
Lead Greeter -
Coffee - Nora Smith
Recycling - Henry Woodward

January 21
Life Lines - Jane Harrison
A/V - Bob Egbert
Head Usher - Ray Wurzburger
Lead Greeter -
Coffee Team - Ron and Robin Salzbach
Recycling - Maya Bohler

January 28
Life Lines - Judie Lallmang
A/V - Todd Hannabass
Head Usher - Alice Davis
Lead Greeter -
Coffee - Pam Yates
Recycling - Lorraine Fleck

January RE Teachers and Youth Advisors -
Are you Interested?
It takes a village to grow our community of faith, and volunteers are the heart of our village. We are here on this earth to help others, and there is always good work to be done. We love our volunteers, and are looking for anyone to fill spaces or help where they feel led. Whether it be a one-time occasion, once a month, or recurring, we appreciate you.

Faith Development
Our youth programs need teachers, advisors, substitutes, craft project leaders, child care providers, and other volunteers for the Spring Semester. Thank you for all your good work!

Coffee Committee
The Coffee committee has wonderful volunteers who prepare and help service coffee for Coffee Fellowship after each Sunday service. The Committee are looking for a few volunteers who can give one Sunday a month or every other month. If you are interested please attend the brief training from James Rosar on December 17 at 10 am prior to service. He will show you how to prepare and what to do. For more information or questions, email the administrator at mbrauch@uuroanoke.org. Thank you!

Pack a Snack
In the midst of the winter holiday season, there are growing needs for the Pack-A-Snack program. Urgent needs include: juice boxes, cereal and granola bars, and mac-n-cheese boxes. Your prompt attention is greatly appreciated, and we thank everyone who has donated. Contact Bonnie Evans with any questions at bevans@uuroanoke.org

Check out our Online Volunteer Form or write to aMoore@uuroanoke.org to start a conversation.

PHHS Outreach 2017
For those of you who donated to the PHHS Outreach, THANK YOU! UUCR has the opportunity to make some local needy young people’s lives better over the Christmas holidays. If you didn’t get a chance to donate but would like the opportunity, mail checks to UUCR Attn: Office Admin. Make checks payable to UUCR and in the memo line list PHHS Outreach 2017.

Nearly 200 students at Patrick Henry High School - our across-the-street neighbor - are homeless or wonder where their next meal will come from when school is not in session. Many of them have aged out of the programs that serve younger children, but can’t yet provide for themselves. The school’s PTA runs a Student Outreach program that offers food and clothing to these students while school is in session. However, on their two-week winter holiday break, these young people are on their own. On two consecutive Fridays, December 22 and 29 from 1 to 5 pm, our church served and will serve as a food pick-up location for these students.

If you have any questions, e-mail Betsy Biesenbach at beezinbox@aol.com or call 982-7892. Thank you for your support and help, Betsy
Recurring Activities
Visit the website for more information. UURoanoke.org

Adult religious education classes
Classes are offered throughout the church year. Come join us; contact Alan Moore.

- **Living the Questions classes** are offered every Sunday from 9:30-10:30 am in the Olin room. Childcare will be provided. A new series will begin on January 7 discussing Brené Brown’s book *Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone*. See the RE section for more information. Contact is Gene Edmunds.

Board meetings
Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Olin room, and are open for all to attend. All Board reports are due on the first Monday of each month.

Children religious education classes
A variety of classes are offered throughout the church year. See the LFD section and the website.

Choir(s)
There are several Choir groups holding practices and events throughout the year.

- **UUCR's Choir** is led by Music Director Kerry Morgiewicz, practices are each Wednesday from 7-9 pm.
- **Goodenuf Choir** is led by Beth Caruthers, practices are on January 8, 22, and 29 beginning at 6 pm in the Olin room.

Community Outreach Committees

- **Diversity Action Group** meets on January 7, from 12:30-1:30 pm in the Olin room. Contact Barbara Smith with questions at barbdave@cox.net.
- **Men's group** meets weekly on Thursdays from 12:30-1:30 pm in the Olin room for fellowship and lunch.
- **Women's group** will meet on January 4 and 18 from 11:30 am-1:30 pm in the YRUU room. For more information, contact Bonnie Nelson at 540.588.1452.

Tai Chi and Meditation Groups
UUCR has two different groups that meet throughout the month and all are welcome.

- **Tai Chi (Qigong and Taijiquan class)** reduces stress, increases stamina, flexibility, coordination, balance, and much more. Students learn the move sequence of the Yang family style Taijiquan and much more. Your first class is Free. Classes are held every Monday from 6-7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Alan Armstrong at alan@alan-armstrong.com
- **Vipassna Meditation Group** meets every other Thursday from 6:30-8 pm in the Olin room. Each meeting begins with a presentation on the factors called the 5 Hindrances and equally relevant while meditating and negotiating the conflicts of everyday life. No prior experience is necessary. Contact is Mary Ann Koch at mapkoch@gmail.com

Youth Group religious education classes
The High School Youth group meets each Sunday from 5-7 pm in the YRUU Room.
**Additional Upcoming Events**

Recurring events are listed above. Visit the website for more information.

The Church office will be closed December 25 - January 1 for Holiday Break. All emails and messages will be returned the week of January 2. In an emergency, contact RevAlex at 336-471-5580. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, Jan 2</strong></td>
<td>6 - 8 pm</td>
<td>Board Executive meeting, Olin room</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, Jan 7</strong></td>
<td>12-1 pm</td>
<td>Birthday Connection during Coffee Hour</td>
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<td>12:30-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Diversity Action Ministry meeting</td>
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<td>5-7 pm</td>
<td>YRUU High School Youth Group: Holiday Supper, TBA</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, Jan 9</strong></td>
<td>6:30-8:30 pm</td>
<td>Board Meeting, open to all, Olin</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, Jan 12</strong></td>
<td>6:30-8:30 pm</td>
<td>Earth Friendly Friday, open to all</td>
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<td>5:30-9:30 pm</td>
<td>YRUU field trip to UUC NRV for film and discussion</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, Jan 14</strong></td>
<td>12:30-1:30 pm</td>
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<td>LFD Council meeting, YRUU Room</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, Jan 30</strong></td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>New Discussion Group! <em>The Sun</em> magazine monthly discussion.</td>
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**UUCR Housekeeping**

Be sure to take home any dishes you bring to events. For safety and liability reasons, there should not be anyone in the church without prior scheduling. The two closet spaces in the Fellowship Hall are no longer storage areas. Please do not place anything in these closets. To schedule any events or for further assistance, email [mabrauch@uuroanoke.org](mailto:mabrauch@uuroanoke.org).

In the event of inclement weather, the phone message and website will be updated. You can check WDBJ7 or WSLS for closings or cancellations. Reach out to me anytime if you need help or assistance.

I hope everyone has a Happy New Year!

Megan
The minister can meet by appointment Sunday - Wednesday.

Alan Moore, Director of Lifespan Faith Development
Email: AMoore@UURoanoke.org | Mobile: (540) 818-4964
Office hours are Tuesdays 2:00-5:00 pm.
No office hours on Tues, Jan. 23 but there will be on Monday, Jan 22

Kerry Morgiewicz, Music Director
Email: KMorgiewicz@uuroanoke.org | Home: (540) 989-3190
Kerry can meet by appointment. Choir is every Wednesday at 7 pm.

Megan Brauch, Congregational Administrator
Email: MBrauch@uuroanoke.org | Office: (540) 342-8888
Office hours: Monday - Thurs. 9 am - 2 pm and Friday 9 am - 12 noon
The office will be closed on Jan 1, 9, and 15.

Bonnie Evans, LFD Administrator | bevans@uuroanoke.org
Linda Wallis, Office Assistant | (540) 342-6214
Beth Caruthers, Goodenuf Choir Director | betheo@yahoo.com

Board of Directors
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Building & Grounds Megan Brauch 540-342-8888 mbrauch@uuroanoke.org
Building Enhancement Jane Haddad 540-774-7258 janhaddad@cox.net
Connections Nancy Brattain 540-400-8283 nbrattain@cox.net
Caring Committee Sally Garber 540-977-2215 jcssgarber@comcast.net
Green Team Bob Egbert canyonlake76@gmail.com
Reading Seeds Amy Hatheway 540-580-6907 abowhead@hotmail.com
Sharing Ministry (SMC) Lynn Yates ljyates8@gmail.com

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