



the UNIGRAM

Failure Tickets

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Minister

Failure tickets. The term does sort of jump right out at you. For a period of time when I worked in business, one of the department heads in my division started tracking mistakes and breakdowns that occurred in the process of getting customers set up with our services. And he wanted to track how often our process was breaking down, so he got the software department to add a special category to our customer trouble-ticket system called “failures” – and he got everyone opening these “failure tickets” every time a breakdown occurred, so that we could work interdepartmentally to figure out what went wrong and to see if we needed to change our procedures in any way to avoid the failure in the future. The trouble ticket system actually worked well in a way

for this, since tickets could be assigned to all the different departments, so failure tickets allowed for group awareness and collaboration. At a certain point, I said to Jason, the guy who had created this “failure ticket” process: “you know, these are actually really learning opportunities, not failures. I mean, yes, our processes definitely failed in each of these instances, but what we’re doing here with these tickets is finding learning opportunities.” I was surprised a couple of days later to see that Jason had actually gotten the software guys to change the name in our systems to “learning opportunities” – so now we had “learning opportunity tickets.” Not quite as catchy.

(continued on page 8)



In This Issue

<u>Sunday Mornings</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Theme Exploration</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Religious Education News</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Intern Minister</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Splinters from the Board</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Funding Our Future</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>2018-19 Stewardship Campaign</u>	
<u>Sharing Gratitude</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>February Calendar</u>	<u>11</u>



Three Lessons in Perseverance

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer, Community Minister

1. A Dog and a Sandbank: If at First...

The house where we live in Florida is built on one-story concrete pilings due to its being beachfront. Our access to the beach entails going down off our deck, across a small backyard, over the dune walkover, and then down a slight sandy embankment to the beach. Usually. Since the last time we were here, fierce winds and churning surf have sculpted that gentle slope into a four-foot high sand cliff. Getting to the beach has been quite a scramble. The shape of the bank changes daily, adding to the excitement.

Our dog Callum provides me with a fine example of perseverance in the face of this sand cliff. She had certainly not seen anything like that before! When we went down to

the beach the first time, she paused, looked over the cliff, and tried to make her way around it. She soon realized this wasn’t an option, since the cliff stretched for miles.

I will admit, my initial response was to walk the block or so down the road to a public beach access, thinking that repair crews might have restored access at public sites first. Not at that beach anyway. It was in the same condition.

Determination won out, and we returned to our own beach access. Still excited even in the face of the trouble we were having, Callum cocked her head, looked over the brink, and launched herself into the air, landing at the base of the cliff in a flurry of sand.

(continued on page 9)

Sunday Mornings at Our Church in the Woods

Services at 9:15 & 11:15 am

February Theme :: Perseverance

Our February theme of Perseverance invites us to consider what it means to keep going and keep working, even when the going gets tough. Social justice work calls on us to persevere regularly – rare and fortunate is the day when we fully achieve our social justice goals, and often the work spans lifetimes. Often our own days are filled with less glamorous, but no less meaningful acts of perseverance. Where does perseverance show up in your life? We'll be exploring all this and more on Sunday mornings this month.

Special Sunday service events include:

- February 4th – The Promise and the Practice – We will join with other Unitarian Universalist churches and congregations in centering the voices of black Unitarian Universalists, while we raise money for Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism.
- February 11th – Stewardship Sunday
- February 25th – Youth Sunday – Join us as our Youth lead a special worship service for all ages that they've been working on for the past two months.

February 4, 11, 18 – Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd

February 25 – Youth Sunday

Religious Education for Children & Youth

Classes at 9:15 & 11:15 am

On the first Sunday, during our 9:15 Service, **Joel Tishken** will be leading a multiage Children's Chapel in the Yellow Room. Nadine will be leading a multiage theme-based class during the 9:15 service the following Sundays.

Our 11:15 Religious Education Classes in grades Preschool-5th grade will be focusing on the theme of the month "perseverance" through story, song, and hands-on-activities.

Our 11:15 Coming of Age Class will be articulating what their beliefs are, through art and in writing, for potential use in their faith statements.

Our 11:15 high school class will be meeting with **Pam Harwood** on *February 4*, for a discussion on the theme of the month and will continue working on their murals representing our UU faith. *On February 18*, they will be meeting with **Maggie Bartlett** to watch an excerpt from the movie *Traitor* and discuss religious fanaticism, the fine line between rebellion and terrorism, and how heroic acts and evil acts can be a matter of perspective. We will not be holding high school classes on *February 11 and 25*, as the youth will be holding a Service Journey fundraiser luncheon on the 11th and on the 25th the youth will be leading their annual "**Youth Sunday**" service under the guidance of **Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd**.

Adult Religious Exploration Offerings

Our mission statement begins by calling us to a continuing exploration of our faith. In pursuit and support of that goal, we offer our Adult RE on Sunday mornings.

Every Sunday, 9:30 am
Red Room
Adult Discussion Group

This group is a chance for people with various personal beliefs to get together and openly discuss a variety of topics. You'll find weekly topics [on page 10](#).

Every Sunday, 10:15 am
Violet room
Muncie UU Pagans

This is an open discussion group to explore the differences in our pagan traditions. People of any belief are welcome.

Theme Exploration – Perseverance

Selecting a theme for our worship services each month allows us to explore specific important theological topics in greater breadth, while also challenging us to go deeper. If you have a reading, poem or personal story to share that relates to our current or upcoming theme, please e-mail them to Rev. Seth.

Sacred Text

Our sacred text this month is a quote from filmmaker Michael Moore:

"This morning I have been pondering a nearly forgotten lesson I learned in high school music. Sometimes in band or choir, music requires players or singers to hold a note longer than they actually can hold a note. In those cases, we were taught to mindfully stagger when we took a breath so the sound appeared uninterrupted. Everyone got to breathe, and the music stayed strong and vibrant... Let's remember MUSIC. Take a breath. The rest of the chorus will sing. The rest of the band will play. Rejoin so others can breathe. Together, we can sustain a very long, beautiful song for a very, very long time. You don't have to do it all, but you must add your voice to the song."

Questions for Reflection

1. We all fall down. Very few of us pick ourselves up on our own. Perseverance is rarely a solo act. Who in your life needs a bit of help getting back up off the mat?
2. It's hard right now. The light at the end of the tunnel is still a ways off. You've remembered to just keep moving forward. But have you remembered to breathe? Have you remembered to be tender with and to take care of yourself, not just push yourself?
3. It is said that people who persevere don't just struggle through their pain; they share and tell stories of their pain. Others then respond with their own stories of pain and struggle, leading to the discovery that we are not as alone as we thought. So is it time for you to be a storyteller, not just a survivor?
4. Yes, it is important to gratefully acknowledge the shoulders of those you stand on. But how are you doing with the equally important work of offering your shoulders to others? Could it be that perseverance is something we pass on?

Resources for Going Deeper

Book – [Rising Strong: The Reckoning, The Rumble, The Revolution](#) by Brené Brown
<https://goo.gl/uw5Vp7>

Article – [How To Bounce Back From Failure — Over And Over Again](#) by Carolyn Gregoire
<https://goo.gl/EqjJDJ>

Spiritual or Reflective Practice

Rarely do we persevere alone. Instead of going to the well-known though, reflect on this question: is there a surprising person, song, book, quote, insight, spiritual practice or experience that propped up or aided you in your perseverance at some point in your life? Find someone you trust, and share the story behind the surprise.

2017-18 Themes

September – Welcome

October – Story

November – Abundance

December – Hope

January – Intention

February – Perseverance

March – Balance

April – Emergence

May – Risk

June – Blessing

Religious Education Corner

Nadine Tringali, Director of Religious Education

Reading is such an important part of our lives. We can use our imagination and travel to places all over the world! On **Sunday, January 28**, we honored our youngest readers in grades K-3 in our **Age of Reading Ceremony**. In our annual ceremony, our youth traveled through a special archway and received three books Unitarian Universalism is a Really Long Name by Jennifer Dant, The Kite Surprise by our very own Bill & Katie Frederick, and a special book from their family. Our participants this year were **Sydney Zirkle** and **Tonin O'Shea**.

I am looking forward to our **"Mindfulness Coloring" Multigenerational Workshop** on **Sunday, February 18** in the fellowship hall from 10:15-11:15. Please take a moment to sit with us and simply color. We will have a wide assortment of coloring pages available, from simple to complex. It is also a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and catch up with old friends!

Myles Enos asked me a while back, if I was nervous reading up front and I admitted that I am always nervous before I start. But once I begin and look at all the children sitting around me, my nervousness fades and I truly enjoy telling the story. As my dear friend, **Linda Morton**, has asked that I place in my column the books I have read for Story for All ages, here is a list of some of my favorites that are perhaps less well known: The Thanksgiving Door by Debby Atwell, The Best Story by Eileen Spinelli, Those Shoes by Maribeth Boelts, What Do You Do With an Idea? by Kobi Yamada, Only One You by Linda Kranz, The Power of Henry's Imagination by Skye Byrne, Pebble, A Story About Belonging by Susan Milord, The Gift of Nothing by Patrick McDonnell, One by Kathryn Otoshi, The Dot by Peter Reynolds, The Big Orange Splot by Daniel Manus Pinkwater, Sonia Sotomayor: A Judge Grows in the Bronx by Jonah Winter, Whoever You Are by Mem Fox, Room on the Broom, by Julia Donaldson, and Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch, by Eileen Spinelli. Thank you Linda, for giving me the opportunity to go back in time and remember these wonderful stories!

Nadine

Youth Sunday Planning!

*Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd
Coordinator of Youth Programs*



It is that time of year again. The most exciting and fun part of our youth program. All middle and high school aged youth are invited to be a part of the process. Youth do not have to be interested in speaking or performing as part of the service in order to help! Everyone can help to plan!

Sunday, February 11, 12:45-2:15 pm
Youth Sunday Planning

Sunday, February 18, 12:45-2:15 pm
Youth Sunday Planning

Saturday, February 24, 2-4 pm
Youth Sunday Rehearsal

Sunday, February 25
Youth Sunday at Both Services!

Brunch with Youth! Sunday, February 11, 10 am

If you haven't made it to our last few brunches, you have really missed some delicious food! On Sunday, February 11, plan stay after the first service or come to church at 10:15 am to grab some food between services to support the youth traveling to the borderlands of Arizona and Mexico. Gather with folks who attend the other service and catch up. Support this important trip! See you there!

Elizabeth

Perseverance & Spiritual Practices

Joel Tishken, Intern Minister

In my Unigram article last month, I wrote about the application of intention to everyday tasks to transform them to spiritual practices. In that piece I noted how through intention I could transform some walks in Nature into spiritual experiences, raising them above the everyday and ordinary. Yet applying intention to everyday things to gain a spiritual practice is not a strategy that will be equally rewarding to everyone. It may also work better with some tasks than others. As a result, you may wish to seek out a spiritual practice that requires the application of perseverance.

Some authorities on spiritual practices maintain that the most transformational potentials come from those spiritual practices that are nothing other than a spiritual practice for us. Take meditation, for instance. Meditation is something we purposefully do as a spiritual practice that we generally do not otherwise do in the course of our everyday lives. By being inherently spiritual, it becomes easier to distinguish it from everyday activities and emphasize its spiritual value. For example, taking a walk in Nature can have more than one meaning for me. As a result, it may be more difficult to stay focused on the spiritual. I could potentially, then, complete it sometimes with a sense of spiritual pride, but really have been focused on exercise or covering a lot of ground. Something like meditation, on the other hand, cannot be completed in any way other than spiritually. When we

use everyday things as a spiritual practice, there can be a risk that we may simply do them without proper intention or awareness.

If I wished to begin a meditation practice, and set the goal to engage in it five times a week, I would need to purposefully integrate the practice into my life and set aside time for it. To fully spiritually benefit I would need to be diligent in meeting the goals I set for myself. As soon as I begin skipping sessions it becomes easy for the whole enterprise to end up being put aside. If I truly wanted to benefit, I would need to keep at the practice even at those times when I was busy, not feeling in the mood, the demands of life were intruding... This is when I would need to apply perseverance and overcome the obstacles to meditate anyway. To meditate even when that was not what I wanted to do, would still pay spiritual dividends. This is why some people call their spiritual practice a spiritual discipline. Because it cannot serve another purpose in life, we have to keep ourselves disciplined in maintaining them.

So, whether it is meditation, journaling, silence, service, fasting (please consult a doctor before starting this one) or any other form of spiritual practice that requires a persistent approach, I wish you well in finding the right practice for you. I would welcome the chance to talk with you about your spiritual practices, old or new.

Joel

Sign up to help at the Sleeping Room in March

For many years our church has provided breakfasts and dinners during the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas to the men at the Christian Ministries Sleeping Room. We learned recently that there are weeks in the spring which could use our help, as well. In an effort to live our values, the Feeding Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force volunteered to help cover the weeks of March 11 - 17 and March 18 - 24. Can you help out?

Here's what's involved: Bring an already prepared meal or a meal needing minimal preparation at 6 am (breakfast) or 6 pm (dinner) to the Sleeping Room at 405 E. Main Street in Muncie. Then help to serve food around 6:30 am/pm. And finally, clean up from the meal. There is a kitchen you can use to re-heat or cook. The number of men varies (and can be dependent on the weather), but is generally between 6 and 12.

Please consider signing up for either breakfast or dinner those weeks. If you're ready to commit, here's the online link to sign up: <http://tiny.cc/uucm-001>

If you're having difficulty signing up, or if you have questions, feel free to ask **Matt Cechini** matt.cechini@gmail.com, who has been kind enough to help with this special project. Thanks for all you do!

~Feeding Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force, Social Justice Committee



Splinters from the Board - Looking to the Future

Exploring faith. Practicing Inclusivity. Living Justice.

The new year brings a time of endings and beginnings. The saddest ending for us is saying farewell to **Ginny Nilles**, who has fallen in love with North Carolina and decided to make it her home. Ginny has been a great servant to our church and to our community, and we will miss her a great deal. We wish her the best.

It is also time to end the Bridge the Gap campaign. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise about half the money needed to make up for our budget deficit. The Board has already found some ways to reduce our expenses and we will search for others.

The new year is also a time for renewal and recommitment. Our long-range planning task force will begin meeting soon, and we are going to work on our goals for the next five years or so. The task force will be seeking your advice and suggestions.

Meanwhile, the work of the church goes on. The board has devoted much of the last two meetings to discussing ways to hold ourselves more accountable to the members. In addition to appointing a committee to evaluate the success of two services, we are examining ways to make it easier for members to provide feedback to the ministers, the board members, the committees, and staff members.

We are also asking you to consider what you can offer of your time and talents to making the church all that we want it to be. One of the great joys of our church is that it supports us and enables us to act out our values and principles. In considering possible candidates for vacancies in leadership positions, we are always struck by the number of members who work so hard to make the church, the community, and the country a better place. Helping the church can be challenging and even frustrating sometimes, for there is so much to be done, but we are always reassured by cheerful energy of our members and friends.

Jerry McKean, President



Welcome To Our New Choir Director

As some of you may know, for some time now we've been looking for an additional person to help me out with the Sunday musical offerings. That person has come in the form of a choir director, whose name is **Marcel Ramalho**. Originally from Brazil, Marcel (whose last name is pronounced ha-MAL-yo), is a doctoral student in music performance at Ball State University, where he studies voice with Dr. Jon Truitt and choral conducting with Dr. Andrew Crow. In addition to several operatic roles, Marcel has recently appeared as the bass soloist in cantatas by J. S. Bach, W. A. Mozart, as well as in Fauré's *Requiem*. Look for his performance in the title role in Ball State Opera Theatre's production of *Gianni Schicchi*, in April/2018. Despite the intimidating resume, Marcel is a great guy, and I am really excited to have someone who can take the choir to even higher levels of artistry!

~Jim Helton, Director of Music

Funding Our Future

"The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away." Pablo Picasso

It's Here! Stewardship, Canvas, Pledge... Whatever the name, it means the same!
It is time to make your financial pledge to UUCM for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

You Are Invited: Kick-Off Pledge Sunday, February 11

Between Services:

Enjoy a special brunch provided by our youth as they raise funds for their Service Journey in June.

Between and After Services:

Visit any **Pledge Central** table located in the Foyer, Sanctuary, or Fellowship Hall.

Pick-up and complete your pledge form.

- YOUR PLEDGE helps our church shine!
- YOUR PLEDGE is for daily expectations, vibrant hopes and audacious dreams.
- YOUR PLEDGE is a promise, a common thread tying together our past, present, and future. It is a promise to nurture this community to explore and expand spiritual beliefs. It is a promise to create a place to be with people we care about.
- YOUR PLEDGE highlights the significant volunteerism within the UUCM community, the continuous work towards social justice, and the ongoing staff work.
- YOUR PLEDGE of financial support ensures our congregation can assertively pursue our vision. UUCM cannot effectively operate without tangible pledges from its current members, new members, and friends.

Make YOUR PLEDGE SHINE

Please consider a 5% or more increase in your pledge

How Does Pledging Work?

- This pledge is for fiscal year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 / payments begin July 1
- Paying your pledge: Monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual payment.
- You can write the check & clearly mark "pledge for 2018-19," put in offertory basket, mail, or drop off to church office. You can also pay with cash – envelopes are available in front of the church office.
- Or choose easy automatic withdrawal from your bank.
- Pick up pledge form at church, from Stewardship member, or [download here](#).
- As you contemplate your pledge, remember the first \$85 for each adult member is dedicated to UUA national and regional dues. If two in the family are active members, national dues are \$170.
- Complete your Pledge form, return to Church office or a Stewardship committee member.

What To Watch For During February

Weekly eBlast and Order of Service will carry information on pledging.

PLEDGE CENTRAL: Every Sunday, before/between/after services, three (3) pledge central tables will be open to complete your pledge information. You can pick up a pledge form and also return completed ones to any of the tables.

Questions / Concerns / Comments: Pledging & Stewardship Committee

Nan Barber

njbarb1@gmail.com

Linda McKean

lwmckean@comcast.net

Katie Frederick

katie@kbfrederick.com

Failure Tickets

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd (continued from page 1)

The distinction between failure and learning opportunity is actually pretty important though. We're all going to make mistakes in life, there's no way around that, it's part of the nature of being human. How we choose to respond to those mistakes and failures though, says a lot about how we experience the world. If we take our mistakes and failures personally, it can cause feelings of shame, anger and sadness. If we look at mistakes and failures as opportunities for growth and learning – good can come out of many of our negative experiences. This isn't always pleasant... and it can even be frustrating. For example, the growth opportunities we're facing might mean realizing or owning up to an unpleasant behavior we've had over time, or facing a difficult feeling or experience from our past that we've been avoiding. I recently read a quote that went something like this: "failure is a problematic word, because failure only exists until the moment you learn something from it, then it ceases to be failure and becomes growth instead." How we approach our mistakes and failures in life can make a big difference.

Perseverance, our theme for February, comes with our approach over time. Thomas Edison famously said some variation of, "Genius is 1% inspiration, and 99% perspiration." Which refers to hard work of course, and also to failure. Most inventions and great new ideas don't come all in instant like magic. Usually they're the result of attempt after attempt after attempt, failure after failure after failure. People who end up with great success often get there from persevering, from trying over and over and over again. Studies have shown that world-wide, the difference between musicians who serve in the first violin section in professional orchestras and those who serve in the second violin section is not talent – the talent level is generally the same. It's how much they practiced. If you practiced more than 10,000 hours over the course of your life, you became a first violin. Less than 10,000, second violin. That's a matter of perseverance right there. Practicing an instrument involves constant failure, and constant repetition of failure – until you get it right. Practicing means playing, making mistakes, going back, trying again, making the same mistake again, going back, practicing some more, until you can regularly get it right. The most accomplished violinists, and the most accomplished musicians typically get there not because they are significantly more talented than others, but simply because they treated every mistake as a learning

opportunity and persevered longer and put it in more practice hours.

The same holds true for kids – praise them only for their successes, and they're actually likely to have less success in the long term, because they struggle with their failures. Consistently praise them over time for trying hard and keeping at it, even and especially when they've failed, and they're much more likely to succeed over the course of life. They succeed because with all the inevitable failure they'll encounter, they've learned to be proud of and value perseverance, not just easy success. They look at failures as opportunities to grow and learn, not as reasons to shut down the process.

Most of us aren't kids anymore, and most of us aren't trying to become first violinists in world-class orchestras either. But the importance of perseverance – of keeping at it, despite the difficulties and hardships – that remains true. For most of us the fruits of our perseverance aren't going to be as dramatic as 23 Olympic gold medals, achieved by U.S. swimmer Michael Phelps, or becoming a world-renowned cellist like Yo-Yo Ma. Valuing and living perseverance might mean though focusing on your kids while working fulltime in the laundry at the local college despite your husband's alcoholism and philandering, like my grandmother did, so that the kids have everything they need. It might mean sacrificing tremendously as a single mom or single dad, to raise your kids while working, and make sure they have all the love they need, in addition to all the things they need. It might mean overcoming chronic pain or chronic illness just to simply function in everyday life. It might mean staying hopeful as a person of color living in our structurally racist country and culture. It might be staying hopeful as a gay person, or a woman, or any number of other oppressed identities. These, and many other smaller, less visible but no less-courageous acts of perseverance – we don't typically lift them up and celebrate them. But we should. We should celebrate them just as much as Michael Phelps and Yo-Yo Ma, if not more. Because they matter, and they make a difference, in our lives, and in the lives of those we care about.

I look forward to hearing about your failures, your learning opportunities, and your stories of perseverance as we explore this topic together this month. See you in church!

peace, love and blessings,

Rev. Seth

Three Lessons in Perseverance

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer (continued from page 1)

Shaking herself off, she was ready to go. Not to be outdone, I braced myself and inched my way down the sandy embankment. Not launched maybe, but inched!

To return to the house, we had to go up the cliff, which proved to be a greater challenge. It took the dog several tries, because with the sand shifting under her enthusiastic attempts at an upward scramble, her progress was as often backward as upward. Finally, though, with sand flying in all directions, she reached the top. She looked back at me as if to say, "Come on, you can do this too!" And I did. Most times we have come back from a walk on the beach, it's taken me several attempts to get up the shifting sand. But so far, I always have! I hope they don't get around to restoring the beach access too soon; I'm enjoying the challenge of going over it myself, as well as watching my husband and Callum deal with it.

2. How to Teach a Child Not to Persevere: Trying Isn't Enough

As a child, I was in effect taught not to persevere, because I was taught not to try in the first place. The way in which I learned *not* to persevere sticks in my mind to this day. Unfortunately, at least in some ways, that lesson has stayed with me. This scene played out often throughout my early years. I would have tried my darndest to comply with some maternal expectation or another and failed to do so. I would then have been criticized and perhaps disciplined for having been unable to do so.

Me: "But I tried."

My Mother: "Trying doesn't count! You have to do it!"

I recently saw a video of a school gymnastics event in Japan. It provides a clear contrast to what I learned as a child. A student who looked to be somewhere between 9 and 12 was trying to jump a rather high barrier. He tried four times. I couldn't tell if by the fourth time he was wiping sweat from his forehead or tears from his eyes. He didn't clear the barrier the fourth time, and the coach sent him gently back to his seat with a pat on the back. What caught my attention was that the other students immediately clapped, then jumped up from their seats and surrounded him in a huge group hug!

3. The Grace of Our Experience: Only by Persevering Can We Gain the Benefits

For She Who is Being Tried

MJ Abell, after Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) 34: 9-12

What does she know who has not been tried?
The woman who has traveled lonely paths
knows how to find her way.
She who has weathered losses
gains compassion.
Tested, she multiplies her resourcefulness.

She who has not been tried,
what does she know?
She who has been surprised
abounds with vigilance.
Betrayed, she recognizes what is true.
Scarred, she finds her resilience.
Her illusions gone, she deepens.

O woman, you follow a spiral,
rounding and revisiting.
The furrow you plow
is your own life. Reach deep within
the soil you've loosened--
draw forth its richness.
Be strengthened by the grace
of your experience.

May you persevere as a part of this supportive
community and come know the grace of your own
experience.

Rev. Julia



"Unitarianism" Harshman Panel
Photo by Gunther Cartwright

Sharing Gratitude

I wish to thank everyone who helped create our magical **Age of Reading** archway for **Sydney Zirkle** and **Tonin O'Shea** to walk through on Sunday, January 28! Also a big thank you to **Katie** and **Bill Frederick**, for contributing their co-authored book The Kite Surprise as a gift for our Age of Reading participants.

~**Nadine Tringali**

We are most grateful to all who answered our calls for service to friends and members of UUCM. Your cheerful willingness to care for others in our Beloved Community is inspiring. We could not have fulfilled our roles as Co – chairs of UUCM's Caring Committee without your loving support. We are also appreciative for those of you who set boundaries and were unable to serve in this manner. We desire participation to be a joy to the recipients AND the givers.

~**Julie Fritz & Liz Lowe, Caring Committee co-chairs**

Thank you to all who donated to our 2017 Mitten Tree. We donated over 50 toasty, colorful winter garments to the Family Clothing Closet at Southside Middle School. The donations of cash will enable the personnel at the Closet to purchase whatever other needed items for the families this Closet serves. Again, a warm thank you to all.

~**Julie Fritz, Mitten Tree Chair**

If you have a gratitude you'd like to submit for the next Unigram, please send it to uucm@uuchurchmuncie.org, subject line "Sharing Gratitude."



Adult Discussion Group

Every Sunday :: 9:30 am :: Red room

February 4: *Death, Dying, and End of Life Decision Making*

Death will be the final scene in all of our lives. How do we want our final farewell to play out? Who do we want to be with us at the end and help us make those final decisions? What is within our power to control and what is not? **Lisa Cox**, hospice social worker leads the discussion on end of life decision making.

February 11: *World Religions*

Why are some religions considered "world" and far more are not? What make a religion worthy of our notice as individuals or UUs? **Joel Tishken**, Intern Minister at UUCM shares his insights and research on religion, and leads our discussion on world religions.

February 18: *Solitude*

Solitude is variously defined as "having no contact with others," or "being completely independent and self-sufficient. **Jon Redmond**, historian and retired truck driver leads the group in a discussion on solitude. Having logged more than a million miles on the highways of America and more recently having read "The Stranger in the Woods," by Michael Finkel, Jon's perspectives on solitude are insightful and thoughtful.

February 25: *Perseverance*

Join us as **Leslie Duvall** leads us in a discussion of perseverance, the monthly theme for February.

February 2018 UUCM Calendar

Online calendar: <http://www.uuchurchmuncie.org/members/calendar/>

Regular Weekly Events

Worship Services	Sundays	9:15 & 11:15 am
Religious Exploration for Children & Youth	Sundays	9:15 & 11:15 am
Adult Discussion Group	Sundays	9:30 am
Muncie UU Pagans	Sundays	10:15 am
Stewardship Committee	Tuesdays	4:00 pm
Body Life Dinner	Tuesdays	6:00 – 7:30 pm
Finding Spirit :: Transgender Support Group	Tuesdays	7:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Tuesdays	7:30 pm
Revival Hour (see online calendar for location)	Wednesdays	5:30 pm
Muncie OUTreach LGBTQ Youth Drop In	Fridays	5:00 – 8:00 pm

February Events & Activities

Visitors Q&A	Sunday	Feb 4	10:30 & 12:45
Centering: Adult Religious Exploration	Monday	Feb 5	6:30 pm
Women's Connection Retreat	Saturday	Feb 10	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Stewardship Sunday :: Funding our Future	Sunday	Feb 11	
Service Journey Fundraiser Brunch	Sunday	Feb 11	10:15 am
Chalice Marketplace / Chalice Bakery	Sunday	Feb 11	10:15 & 12: 15
Combined Youth Groups	Sunday	Feb 11	12:45 pm
Roots & Wings :: New Member Class	Sunday	Feb 11	12:45 pm
Centering: Adult Religious Exploration	Monday	Feb 12	6:30 pm
Social Justice Committee	Monday	Feb 12	7:00 pm
Program Council	Wednesday	Feb 14	7:00 pm
Go Solar	Thursday	Feb 15	7:00 pm
Committee on Ministries	Thursday	Feb 15	7:15 pm
Mindfulness Coloring :: Multi-Gen Event	Sunday	Feb 18	10:15 am
Choir Rehearsal	Sunday	Feb 18	10:30 am
New Member Signing Ceremony	Sunday	Feb 18	10:45 am
Combined Youth Groups	Sunday	Feb 18	12:45 pm
Adult Discussion Committee	Sunday	Feb 18	12:45 pm
Centering: Adult Religious Exploration	Monday	Feb 19	6:30 pm
Feeding Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force	Tuesday	Feb 20	7:15 pm
Unigram Submission Deadline	Wednesday	Feb 21	9:00 am
Board of Trustees	Wednesday	Feb 21	6:30 pm
Membership Committee	Thursday	Feb 22	7:00 pm
Black History Month Documentary	Thursday	Feb 22	7:30 pm
Youth Sunday Rehearsal	Saturday	Feb 24	2:00 pm

Brunch with Youth! Sunday, February 11

If you haven't made it to our last few brunches, you have really missed some delicious food! On Sunday, February 11, plan stay after the first service or come to church at 10:15 am to grab some food between services to support the youth traveling to the borderlands of Arizona and Mexico. Gather with folks who attend the other service and catch up. Support this important trip! See you there!

Go Solar!

Get in on the cheapest group prices, 30% Federal tax credit, 15 years of "grandfathering in" of net metering, individualized plans with no payment/obligation before a signed contract. Solarize IN will hold a public information meeting Thursday, February 15, 7-8:30 PM in the UUCM sanctuary.

Honoring Black History Month

View the film: "Sharing the Dream": Brian Lanker photographs Black women who changed America. Thursday February 22, 7:30pm, in the UUCM sanctuary with a moderated Q&A and discussion after the film. Pulitzer prize-winning photographer Brian Lanker chronicles his two-year project photographing 75 great Black Women. Free and open to the Muncie community.

UUCM Staff & Leadership

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Minister

seth@uuchurchmuncie.org

Rev. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer, Community Minister

julia@uuchurchmuncie.org

Joel Tishken, Intern Minister

joel@uuchurchmuncie.org

Nadine Tringali, Director of Religious Education

nadine@uuchurchmuncie.org

Christie Williams, Office Administrator

christie@uuchurchmuncie.org

Dr. James Helton, Director of Music

jim@uuchurchmuncie.org

Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd, Coordinator of Youth Programs

elizabeth@uuchurchmuncie.org

Megan Wenning, Membership Coordinator

megan@uuchurchmuncie.org

Board of Trustees

Jerry McKean

President

Ginny Nilles

President-Elect

John Bartlett

Vice President

Sharon Seager

Secretary

Jennifer Hollems

Treasurer

Holly Hanauer

Past President

Anna Dillinger

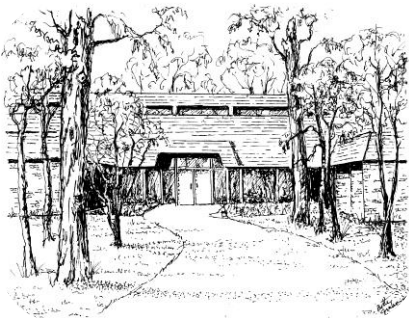
Youth Representative

765.288.9561 | uucm@uuchurchmuncie.org | www.uuchurchmuncie.org

Office Hours: Monday 1:00 – 4:00 pm | Tuesday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Wednesday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie

4800 West Bradford Drive
Muncie, IN 47304



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 635
Muncie, IN

Return Service
Requested

DATED MATERIAL