

# ***What's Happening At UUCSS***

Religious Education for Children, Youth  
& Adults

Community Building Events

Ongoing Groups

Social Action Activities



**Winter-Spring 2010**  
(revised 4/8/10)

Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring  
10309 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20903  
301-434-4050, [www.uucss.org](http://www.uucss.org)

## **Table of Contents**

<b>Especially for Visitors/New Members</b>	<b>4</b>
Visitors' Coffee and Conversation	
Inquirer's Lunch	
RU a UU?/Orientation to UUCSS	
<b>Adult Religious Education Activities</b>	<b>5</b>
Crossroads Coffee	
Diversity Series	
Interfaith Discussion	
Contemplative Prayer Series	
Workshops	
<b>Religious Education for Children &amp; Youth</b>	<b>8</b>
9:15 Sunday RE Program (Sept-June)	
11:15 Sunday RE Program (Sept-June)	
10:30 Summer Sunday Program	
Additional RE Programs	
Special Needs	
<b>Ongoing Groups</b>	<b>12</b>
20/30s Connection	
Day Trippers	
Inreach Groups	
Marriage Enrichment Group	
Men's Group	
Monday Night Yoga	
UUCSS Ladies Nite Out	
UUCSS Gentleman's Club	
Women's Book Group	

## Especially for Visitors/New Members

### Social Action Groups 16

Deaf Access Task Force  
ESOL Task Force  
LGBTQA  
Global Warming/Green Sanctuary  
Shepherd's Table  
So Others Might Eat (SOME)

### Community Building Events 19

Fellowship Dinner  
Diversity Event  
Suite Treat  
Women's Retreat  
Passover Seder  
Rummage Sale  
Families LUUV Camping Trip  
Spring Picnic

### Other Family Activities 21

Babysitting Coop  
Families Living Unitarian Universalist  
Values (Families LUUV)

### UUCSS Staff & Lay Leadership Contact Info 23

This brochure is produced by the Adult and Children's Religious Education Committees of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring. It includes not only activities sponsored by those committees, but also other activities available to the church community and its friends. Please check our web site, [www.uucss.org](http://www.uucss.org), and our newsletter, the *Uniter*, for more information as well as changes and additions to these listings.

### Visitors' Coffee and Conversation

When: Fourth Sunday of each month between services.

Where: Triangle Room in the Community Hall

Contact: Deb Ferrenz, 301-588-7531 [membership@uucss.org](mailto:membership@uucss.org)

This is an opportunity during coffee hour for visitors to meet the Membership Committee, church staff and lay leaders and to obtain information and ask questions about the church structure, values, operations, activities, etc.

### Inquirer's Lunch

When: Sunday, 2/14 and Sunday, 5/2; 12:30-2:00 pm

Where: Community Hall

Contact: Deb Ferrenz, 301-588-7531 [membership@uucss.org](mailto:membership@uucss.org)

This is a chance for visitors who are thinking about becoming members of the church to have lunch with, and hear informal presentations from, church staff and church leaders. It is also an official part of our membership process.

### RU a UU? / Orientation to UUCSS

When: Sunday, 5/9; 9:15-11 am

Where: Dolan Lounge

Contact: [membership@uucss.org](mailto:membership@uucss.org)

This class is for those visitors, friends and others who want to know more about what it means to be a UU, and be part of the UUCSS community. In this class led by Jo Paoletti and Barbra Lancelot, we'll share our personal religious journeys and the Unitarian and Universalist journeys that helped to create our liberal faith, and get informed about our particular church community at UUCSS. We'll also discuss the church's governing structure and the programs we offer and explore the commitment and excitement to the future of our liberal religious community and

opportunities for spiritual growth, social action, and community for members and friends.

## Adult Religious Education Activities

### Crossroads Coffee

When: During coffee hour (between services) on the first, second and third Sundays of the month.

Where: Triangle Room in the Community Hall

Contact: Dale Stephens, 301-949-6688 [ohmdale@yahoo.com](mailto:ohmdale@yahoo.com)

This is a time for lively discussions on a variety of subjects, led by church members and committees. Check worship service announcements and the *Uniter* for specific topics.

### Diversity Series

When: Second Sunday of each month at 9:15 am

Where: Chapel Room in the Sanctuary Building

Contact: Sarah Torell, 301-345-2525 [gogonurse@gmail.com](mailto:gogonurse@gmail.com)

Discussion of predetermined readings related to cultural and racial diversity. For the 2/14 conversation, we'll read *After*, a novel by Marita Golden, about a black policeman who kills an innocent young black man. On 3/14 we'll hold our rescheduled discussion about *Luxurious Hearses*, one of the stories in the collection, *Say You're One of Them*, by Uwem Akpan. Check worship service announcements and the *Uniter* for information about April and May readings and discussions. Books can be purchased at the book cart during coffee hour.

### Interfaith Discussion—*Hinduism: One God or Many?*

When: Sunday, January 24 at 9:15 am

Where: Chapel Room in the Sanctuary Building

Contact: Rev. Ellen Jennings, [mre@uucss.org](mailto:mre@uucss.org)

Presentation and discussion led by Hari-kirtana das, the musician featured at our fall Kirtan service. Hari-kirtana das, a certified

Jivamukti Yoga teacher, began his practice of bhakti (devotional) yoga, with its emphasis on kirtan, mantra meditation, and scriptural study, in 1977.

### Contemplative Prayer Series

When: Second and fourth Wednesdays, from 7:30-9 pm  
(1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24, 3/10, 3/24)

Where: Triple Room (downstairs in Sanctuary Bldg)

Contact: Jane Larrick, 240-297-9255 [jane\\_larrick@hotmail.com](mailto:jane_larrick@hotmail.com)

Many Unitarian Universalists find that spiritual practices help support and sustain our liberal faith. These practices often come from other faith traditions and can include different forms of prayer and meditation. Everyone is welcome to participate (our fall group was wonderfully eclectic!). There will be time for silence, reflection, journaling and brief sharing. Literature, music, song and movement will be used. There's no charge, but we'll collect a free-will offering at each session to cover the facilitator's expenses. These six session series will be led by Lakesha Bradshaw, a colleague of Robbin Melchiorre (the fall leader) and an experienced facilitator of workshops and prayer groups.

### Workshops

When: Sunday afternoons (often the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month)

Where: UUCSS Sanctuary

Contact: Dee Atwell, 301-384-1338 [dewell2020@earthlink.net](mailto:dewell2020@earthlink.net)

**Please register in advance by emailing [mre@uucss.org](mailto:mre@uucss.org) for the following workshops:**

#### ***Different Voices of Islam***

When: Sunday, January 17, from 1-3 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Contact: Rev. Ellen at [mre@uucss.org](mailto:mre@uucss.org)

Workshop and panel discussion featuring Muslim men and women from the DC area. Come hear our neighbors and find out more about the many dimensions of this fascinating tradition! There will be plenty of time for Q & A.

***The Caregiving Journey: A Resource Workshop for Supporting an Aged Parent or a Terminally Ill Loved One, and Yourself***

When: Sunday, February 21, from 1-3:30 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Contact: Dee Atwell, 301-384-1338

[dewell2020@earthlink.net](mailto:dewell2020@earthlink.net)

In this interactive workshop, we will explore all stages of the caregiving journey, with information and resources helpful to those currently facing this challenge and to all of us in preparing for the future. Panelists will include: an intake social worker and an ombudsman from Montgomery County's Aging and Disability Services, a Medical Director of Palliative Care and a Director of a Caregiving Resource Center at a local hospital, and a member of our congregation who will share lessons learned from the caregiving journey.

***Becoming a UU Partner Church***

When: Sunday, March 7 from 2-4 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Contact: Jane Larrick, 240-297-9255

[jane\\_larrick@hotmail.com](mailto:jane_larrick@hotmail.com)

Following the great turnout at Bev and Bob McGaughy's 1/10 slide presentation of their recent UU Pilgrimage to Transylvania, participants decided they'd like to learn more about what it would take to become a UU Partner Church with a congregation in Eastern Europe. Stay tuned for more information in the *Unitarian* and on the list serve.

***Creative Aging***

When: Sunday, April 18 from 3-5 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Contact: Rev. Ellen at [mre@uucss.org](mailto:mre@uucss.org)

Marjory Bankson, author of the recently published *Creative Aging: Rethinking Retirement and Non-retirement in a Changing World*, is an artist, author and "seasoned spiritual guide" who has led workshops and seminars all around the DC area. She will lead us in an exploration of creativity, identity and purpose in the second half of life. Please Register In Advance. A \$5 donation is requested.

***Substance Abuse and Recovery***

When: Sunday, May 16 from 1-3:00 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Contact: [mre@uucs.org](mailto:mre@uucs.org)

John Sullivan, MA (Psychology), CCDC, will lead an informal & interactive workshop on a variety of topics related to Alcohol/Drug Abuse & Addiction. John will discuss signs & symptoms, approaches to recovery, 12 Step Programs, myths related to substance abuse, etc. Other topics may include the role of congregations in regard to these issues, including the importance of being a supportive community for those in recovery. John will tailor the discussion to the needs of the group! PLEASE REGISTER: A light lunch will be served.

## **Religious Education for Children and Youth**

This year our Sunday School theme is: *We Are Unitarian Universalists Exploring...Other World Religions and Traditions*. Every month we engage in a variety of activities including *Chalice Chapel* (worship), RE Classes and Social Action. Our middle and high school age students also enjoy outings, overnights, youth conferences ("cons") and field trips.

**We offer Religious Education and Nursery Care at both our 9:15 am and 11:15 am services during the regular church year. We also offer an RE Program and Nursery Care at our 10:30 am summer service.**

All of our RE teachers, team members, youth advisors, leaders and professional staff adhere to the UUCSS Child Safety Policy and are recruited, trained, supervised and supported by our Minister of Religious Education and other RE staff members.

We encourage visitors to our Sunday morning RE Program and ask that you fill out a visitor registration form when you come. After participating for several Sundays, we ask that you please register by filling out the form on our website or by sending an e-mail to Rev. Ellen at [mre@uucss.org](mailto:mre@uucss.org).

### **9:15 RE Program (Sept-June):**

#### **Babies and young children—Nursery Care**

Where: Lower level of the Admin building

#### **Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade—Sunday School**

Where: Lower level of the Sanctuary & Comm Hall buildings

Theme: *Other World Religions and Traditions*. Activities include: worship, social action, and traditional classroom lessons grouped by grades. In April and May we'll offer a series of fun and experiential mini courses on a variety of topics.

### **11: 15 RE Program (Sept-June):**

#### **Babies and young children—Nursery Care**

Where: Lower level of the Admin building

#### **3 and 4 year olds—Sunday School**

Where: Lower level of the Community Hall building

Theme: UU Preschool lessons and activities to help our youngest Sunday school students learn about and feel comfortable with their family's chosen church and tradition.

#### **Kindergarten thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade—Sunday School**

Where: Lower level of the Sanctuary & Comm Hall buildings

Theme: *Other World Religions and Traditions*. Activities include: worship, social action, and traditional classroom lessons grouped by grades. In April and May we'll offer a series of fun and experiential mini courses on a variety of topics.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade—RE Classes and Field Trips**

Where: Lower level of the Sanctuary building

Theme: *Other World Religions and Traditions*. Activities include: field trips to different houses of worship, social action, and traditional classroom lessons. In April and May we'll offer a series of fun and experiential mini courses on a variety of topics.

#### **9<sup>th</sup> Grade—Coming of Age Class**

Where: Dolan Lounge in the Admin building

Theme: Coming of Age (COA). Coming of Age rituals around the world celebrate the time when young people are ready to begin making their own decisions and to start taking responsibility for those decisions. Our Unitarian Universalist COA Program encourages young teenagers to begin identifying and defining what they believe and to determine what actions follow from those beliefs.

Note: The COA class meets most Sunday mornings at 11:15 and also participates in a number of "off campus" activities such as a ropes course and a variety of social action projects. It concludes with a ceremony attended by the entire congregation on March 7. After their COA Ceremony, the 9<sup>th</sup> Graders are welcomed into YRUU (teen group) as official members.

#### **10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade—Teen Group (YRUU)**

Where: Fellowship House

Theme: Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU).

YRUU meets most Sunday mornings at 11:15 and also gets together for overnights, youth conferences, social action projects and fun social events.

### **Summer RE Programs (10:30 am):**

Our summer theme will focus on the Unitarian Universalist 7<sup>th</sup> Principle—"respecting the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part." Sarah Gonzalez, RE Program Assistant, will lead this summer series of classes.

**Babies and young children—Nursery Care**

Where: Lower level of the Admin building

**Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade—Sunday School**

Where: Lower level of the Sanctuary building

**Middle and High School Youth** are invited to attend the worship service or help out with the RE Program.

**Additional RE Programs:**

**Our Whole Lives (OWL)—**OWL is a comprehensive UU program on human sexuality.

**Middle School (mostly 8<sup>th</sup> grade) Youth**

When: Sunday afternoons/evenings, October thru April

Where: Sanctuary building

**Parents of Middle School (mostly 8<sup>th</sup> grade) Youth**

When: Meets at the same time as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade OWL class—5 times during the year

**10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth**

When: Sunday afternoons/evenings, January thru April. The next Senior High OWL class is scheduled for 2011.

The Our Whole Lives curriculum is based on the Unitarian Universalist Principle of respect for “the inherent worth and dignity of every person,” and all of the lessons flow from this premise. Young people learn about everything from basic anatomy to respectful relationships to safe sex practices. Many graduates of the OWL Program claim that it was the most important part of their UU Religious Education!

Note: OWL classes require parent permission and pre-registration. In addition, UUCSS charges a nominal program fee to cover the additional cost of providing these classes (waivers are considered upon request).

OWL teachers are required to attend a fifteen hour training and be certified by credentialed trainers before teaching an OWL class.

**Intergenerational Services (Intergens)—**Multi-age services are held at least six times a year for the entire congregation. These include: *Water Communion, Blessing of the Animals, Flower Communion, Circle of Life*, and some interfaith and holiday services. The Nursery and Preschool Class remain open for babies and young children on most Intergen Sundays.

**Art Assemblies—**These multi-age events are held several times a year on holiday weekends. Children and youth have the opportunity to work with a local artist in smaller groups on art projects and activities.

**Spring Mini Courses—**These classes are offered each April/May with special themes such as “Live Action Video” and “Music and Movement from the Middle East.” It’s a fun way to enc a great RE year!

**Children/Youth with Special Needs:**

At UUCSS we welcome and include people of all ages with special needs. Please contact Rev. Ellen at [mre@uucss.org](mailto:mre@uucss.org) so that we can work together to create the supports your child needs to have a wonderful RE experience.

**Ongoing Groups**

**20/30s Connections**

When: varies

Where: Homes, restaurants, parks etc.

Contact: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/UUCSSYA/>

Members of 20/30 Connections meet regularly for member-led activities (e.g. potlucks, movies) for the purpose of strengthening the bond between 20 and 30-year old UUs at UUCSS.

## **Day Trippers**

When and where: to be announced

Contact: Marcia Joiner, 301-946-5349, [jschreib@juno.com](mailto:jschreib@juno.com)

Are you free during the day? Would you like to be out and about with fellow UUCSSers? Consider being a "Day Tripper." Beginning in January, once a month UUCSSers will come together to visit a museum, perform community service, or commune with nature. The outings will be free and open to all who are available on week days. We are planning to share a brown bag lunch before or after most events. Look for details in the *Uniter* and on the list serve.

## **Inreach Groups**

When: 2-hour meetings, twice/month, day determined by group.

Where: At church or in members' homes, as each group decides

Contact: Catherine Stephens, 301-949-6688, [Inreach@uucss.org](mailto:Inreach@uucss.org)

Inreach Groups have formed for discussion, insight and connections among us. Each group is led by a facilitator who is trained and supported by our minister, Rev. Liz Lerner. The groups of 10 meet twice monthly for an opening reading, check-in, discussion of a topic, and a closing. The range of topics include personal, spiritual and contemporary issues, such as: Sense of Gratitude, Sacred Places, and Sibling Rivalry. Each group member makes a commitment to attend as regularly as possible for a year. The groups are open to new members throughout the church year. The goal is to get to know each other better and to share personal insights that will extend our spiritual and community experience beyond Sunday morning. There is always a place for you in an Inreach Group!

## **Marriage Enrichment Group**

When: Meets monthly on the second Sunday in the evening.

Where: Usually meets in the Old Miller Room (Community Hall)

Contact: Steve Leete, 301-920-1458 [swak.leete@gmail.com](mailto:swak.leete@gmail.com)

Our Marriage Enrichment Group follows guidelines put out by the Association for Couples in Marriage Enrichment (ACME, [www.bettermarriages.org](http://www.bettermarriages.org)). Groups consist of 3-5 couples – ours

is currently five couples. This group has been meeting for several years, with gradual shifts in membership, and new members are added subject to agreement of all current participants. We rotate the duties of leading the program according to a regular schedule. Meetings generally consist of a topic and marriage-building exercise led by that month's lead couple. The core activity is 'dialoguing', in which the couple faces each other and discusses a topic, following guidelines such as 'using "I" statements' which promote clear and productive communication. If there is interest, we would be happy to facilitate forming of one or more additional groups, which could meet at the church or elsewhere. Our group would consider addition of a couple, with the caveat that any new couple must be accepted by all current members of the group. A MEG (including our current group) can include any couple in a committed relationship, regardless of sexual identity or legal status. Membership in MEG groups does not require the approval of the ACME organization.

## **Men's Group**

When: Every Monday evening (except for some holidays) 7:30 to 10:00pm, formal meeting starts at 8:00

Where: Dolan Lounge

Contact: Rob Dahlstrom, 301 384-9667, [Dahlstrom@comcast.net](mailto:Dahlstrom@comcast.net)

This is a group for fun, fellowship and discussion, as participants search for some of the answers to problems confronting men today. Humor, bonding and support are a few of the benefits of membership. We have been meeting for some time and tend to focus on issues of older men, but young men are welcome to join us either to broaden the scope of our discussions or to let us help in spinning off a group of their own. Those considering joining are encouraged to call Rob for details.

## **Monday Night Yoga**

When: Monday nights, 7:30 -9:00 pm

Where: Community Hall of UUCSS

Contact: Jane Jackson, 301-681-6319

[jane@brahmaviharayoga.com](mailto:jane@brahmaviharayoga.com)

This is a basic hatha yoga class that includes warm-ups, yoga postures, breathing practices, restorative yoga, and deep relaxation. The class is offered on a continuing basis, with beginners (including folks who have never done yoga before) welcome to start any time. The usual level of the class is around what most local studios would call “level 1-2”. Class is taught by Jane Jackson, and occasionally by John Acton. Jane and John are UUCSS members. They are graduates of the yoga teacher training program at Willow Street Yoga Center, Anusara-inspired™ yoga teachers, and Registered Yoga Teachers through Yoga Alliance. To learn about their approach to yoga, go to [www.BrahmaViharaYoga.com](http://www.BrahmaViharaYoga.com).

\*\*This class is offered on a *dana* (donation) basis, with half going to the teacher and the other half to the church to cover the cost of using the space.

### **UUCSS Ladies’ Night Out**

When: Second Friday of the month, starting around 7:30 pm  
Where: Sometimes people’s houses, sometimes a local restaurant  
Contact: Alexa Fraser at [Frasera1@westat.com](mailto:Frasera1@westat.com)

This group is for women associated with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring. This group will meet on an approximately monthly basis for fun and lively conversation and to share and support one another.

### **UUCSS Gentlemen’s Club**

When: Last Friday of each month from about 8-11 p.m.  
Where: Local bar or restaurant  
Contact: John Robinette at [JohnR@starpower.net](mailto:JohnR@starpower.net) or Doyle Rice at [dsrcice@verizon.net](mailto:dsrcice@verizon.net) for more information or to join.

The UUCSS Gentlemen's Club is a monthly gathering of UUCSS men. Social and highly informal in nature, the Club usually meets the last Friday of each month from about 8-11 p.m. at a local bar or restaurant to discuss current events or sports. Past activities

have also included pool and bowling. The Gentlemen's Club has also sponsored a group outing to a Washington Nationals game as an auction event.

### **Women’s Book Group**

When: Fourth Monday of each month—but the date can change, so check first!

Time: 7:30 pm-9:30 pm

Where: Deb Weiner’s home—call for directions

Contact: Deb Weiner, 301-807-9117, [weinerd@georgetown.edu](mailto:weinerd@georgetown.edu)

We are an informal group of interested readers and we read a book each month selected from an evolving list of book titles. We read mostly fiction but not exclusively. Each participant can add titles to the list at any time. We hold a wide-ranging discussion about the book and we identify issues from the book for discussion in an informal atmosphere that includes a dessert to share among everyone. We identify titles to read two months in advance and we try to make sure that all books are available at county libraries, that they are usually available in paperback, and can be ordered as used books to reduce costs. The Uniter carries a monthly reminder in the calendar section. All interested readers, especially new members to the church, are encouraged to join us at any time without an extended obligation!

## **Social Action Groups**

### **Deaf Access Committee**

Meetings: approx every 6 weeks, TBA

Contact: [deafaccess@uucss.org](mailto:deafaccess@uucss.org)

To request interpreters, contact: [interpreters@uucss.org](mailto:interpreters@uucss.org)

The Deaf Access Committee (DAC) coordinates sign language interpreting services at UUCSS and supports the church's welcoming environment for the Deaf community. DAC works in collaboration with outreach, adult religious education, social action, worship services, activities committee, and other units of

the church to help create full access for Deaf members and friends. DAC also sponsors programs such as sign language classes and workshops about Deaf Culture, depending on volunteer availability. We welcome and need new members to DAC. You do not need to know sign language to be involved!

### **ESOL Task Force**

No set meeting schedule

Contact: Bob Geiger, 301-593-3319 [bobandcath@prodigy.net](mailto:bobandcath@prodigy.net)

The ESOL Task Force provides a service to immigrants in our surrounding area who are seeking to improve their English skills. We have partnered with local community organizations, taught classes, and held conversation groups. We also see our role as offering church members an opportunity to contribute to their community and to learn about the immigrant community in our area. In addition to ESOL classes, we have offered some events for immigrant families and discussed taking other measures to support immigrants.

### **LGBTQA Marriage Equality Task Force**

When: As needed.

Contact: Cindy Scharf, 301-625-5077, [lgbtqchair@uucss.org](mailto:lgbtqchair@uucss.org)

Please contact us to join our separate list serve e-mail group.

The LGBTQA Marriage Equality Task Force advocates for marriage equality and related LGBTQA issues at the federal, state, and county levels. The task force partners with other LGBTQA advocacy groups, and has worked with congregation members to contact their lawmakers in Annapolis and DC towards one goal: equal protection in all matters governed by civil law.

The task force educates UUCSS members about ways we can become even more welcoming allies to the LGBTQA members of UUCSS & the wider community, which include participation in events outside the church. The task force is also the UUCSS liaison with the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) with respect to our church's commitment to the "Welcoming

Congregation" program and other LGBTQA initiatives and programs of the UUA.

### **Global Warming/Green Sanctuary**

When: First Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm

Where: UUCSS

Contact: Bob Geiger, 301-593-3319 [bobandcath@prodigy.net](mailto:bobandcath@prodigy.net) or Doneby Smith, 301-949-3509

We seek ways to help UUCSS members address climate change in their households, in our congregation, and in the wider world. This year our congregation voted to become part of the UUA's *Green Sanctuary* Program. As part of this process, we'll promote energy efficiency in members' households and within our church, we'll sponsor workshops, talks and other educational events, we'll create worship experiences that celebrate our earth and all her creatures, and we'll lobby lawmakers in Annapolis and DC to fight global warming at the state and national level.

### **Shepherd's Table**

When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, 4:45-7:30

Where: Silver Spring

Contact: Bob Hirshon, [bhirshon@gmail.com](mailto:bhirshon@gmail.com)

UUCSS takes a turn every month to help feed the hungry in downtown Silver Spring. Contact Bob if you're interested in helping out.

### **So Others Might Eat (SOME)**

When: First Saturday of the month

Contact: Emily Tien, [emilytien@verizon.net](mailto:emilytien@verizon.net)

SOME is a soup kitchen down on Capital Hill in DC. They serve breakfast, lunch and dinner to over 300 people per day. UUCSS members are needed to consistently donate either \$10 worth of fruit, green vegetables (preferably canned), or coffee. There are three groups of volunteers. Two groups drop off food every other month for 6 months each year. The third group consists of drivers

who collect the food at the church and drive it to SOME. A 'driver' on average will drive once or twice a year. This is a family friendly volunteer effort, as children of all ages can wash fruit or "help" deliver food. UUCSS has generously participated for over 20 years. Volunteers bring food to the church once a month which is then transported downtown.

## Community Building Events

### Fellowship Dinner

When: Saturday, January 23, 6 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Contact: [fellowshipdinner@uucss.org](mailto:fellowshipdinner@uucss.org)

Please join us for the fabulous and fun UUCSS Fellowship Dinner. On that evening, we come together for food and fellowship. It's a lovely time to meet new people, sample fine foods, listen to great music, and partake in general merriment. We hope you'll come! RSVP to the contact e-mail above.

### Diversity Event: *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?*

When: Friday, January 29, 6-10 pm

Where: Sanctuary

Contact: Emily Tien, 301-384-0984 [emilytien@verizon.net](mailto:emilytien@verizon.net)

This event will feature a dinner of international cuisine provided by Diversity Team members, followed by a screening of "Crash" and a discussion. The movie will be shown with captions, and sign language interpretation will be available. Dinner will start at 6 pm and the movie at 7:00 pm. Childcare and a salad and pizza dinner will be provided for the youngsters! Help us make our dinner and childcare plans by sending your event RSVP to Emily by 1/24 and childcare registration to [childcare@uucss.org](mailto:childcare@uucss.org) by 1/22.

### Suite Treat

When: Saturday, March 13

Where: Sanctuary

Contact: Bob McGaughy, 301-656-0895, [music@uucss.org](mailto:music@uucss.org)

This lovely evening of music and sweets is sponsored by the UUCSS music committee. Funds will be used to support the church music program of the church.

### Women's Retreat

When: March 19-21

Where: Bishop Clagett Retreat Center, Buckeystown, MD

Contact: Carolyn Savadkin, [csavadkin@verizon.net](mailto:csavadkin@verizon.net), 410-381-4419

Women of UUCSS: Plan on spending the weekend of March 19-21 with new and old friends. Ingredients: mix time for spiritual exploration, with a tablespoon of slumber party, a dash of dance music, a walk outside, good conversation, nap time, and me time. Blends smoothly into a weekend retreat that you will hate to miss. Meet some new best friends.

### Passover Seder

When: Saturday, April 3, 5-8 pm

Where: Community Hall

Contact: [activities@uucss.org](mailto:activities@uucss.org)

While this is a traditionally Jewish ritual dinner, our Seder is for everyone who seeks justice in the world. Everyone will get a chance to read the Haggadah (Passover story), sing traditional songs, and enjoy a delicious potluck dinner. Family and friends are welcome. A small donation as well as a pot luck dish are requested. Look for details in the *Uniter* and on the list serve.

### Rummage Sale

When: Saturday, May 15, All Day

Where: UUCSS Community Hall

Contact: Laura Ellis, 301-779-7531, [stalwartlaura@verizon.net](mailto:stalwartlaura@verizon.net)

Bring your items to donate during the week before and then come to shop for fabulous bargains on the day of the event!

### **Families Living Unitarian Universalist Values (Families LUUV) Camping Trip**

When: June 4-6

Where: Sandy Point Maryland

Contact: Alexa Fraser, 301-315-6309 ([Frasera1@westat.com](mailto:Frasera1@westat.com)).

One of two camping trips each year—open to all ages, with or without children! A nominal registration covers meals, snacks, and camp site.

### **Spring Picnic**

When: Sunday, June 13 at 12:30

Where: UUCSS

Contact: [activities@uucss.org](mailto:activities@uucss.org)

Please join the Activities Committee for food and fellowship. This yearly event is usually completely potluck, so we bring lots of main dishes, salads, side dishes, desserts, and drinks. Committees and other church groups are invited to host a special activities or presentations at the picnic.

## **Other Family Activities**

### **Babysitting Coop**

When: As needed

Where: Your home

Contact: Amy Polk, 301-891-1477 ([amypolk@starpower.net](mailto:amypolk@starpower.net)).

UUCSS has a babysitting coop to provide babysitting services to members by members.

### **Families Living Unitarian Universalist Values (Families LUUV)**

When: Bimonthly

Where: UUCSS

Contact: Alexa Fraser 301-315-6309 [frasera1@westat.com](mailto:frasera1@westat.com)

This is a support group created and sustained by UUCSS families. We meet at the church on designated dates, starting at 4:45 and going through a potluck dinner. While the kids have play time with watchful babysitters, the grownups discuss their child rearing successes and challenges in the past month. There is usually a brief semiformal presentation on a topic like “teaching your child about tolerance and differences in people” or “raising non-materialistic children in a materialistic world.” Families LUUV attendees have children from newborns through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, though we welcome those with older children as well. Contact Alexa Fraser to find out winter/spring dates and topics.

## UUCSS Staff and Lay Leadership

Rev. Liz Lerner Maclay, Parish Minister [minister@uucss.org](mailto:minister@uucss.org)

Rev. Ellen Jennings, Minister of RE [mre@uucss.org](mailto:mre@uucss.org)

Michael Holmes, Music Director [musicdirector@uucss.org](mailto:musicdirector@uucss.org)

Melinda Yalom, Church Administrator [administrator@uucss.org](mailto:administrator@uucss.org)

Sarah Gonzalez, RE Assistant [reassistant@uucss.org](mailto:reassistant@uucss.org)

Dawn Star Borchelt, Youth Coordinator [dawnstarcre@gmail.com](mailto:dawnstarcre@gmail.com)

Jim Paoletti, Board President [board@uucss.org](mailto:board@uucss.org)



**Please visit our web page, [www.uucss.org](http://www.uucss.org), to confirm dates and times and for more information about all upcoming events.**