



Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Of Waynesboro, VA

Worship in January 2016

SUNDAY SERVICES:

January 3, 2016

“Mindful Beginnings”

– Rev. Paul Oakley

The opening days of a new year see many of us considering ways we can do better than we did last year. Many make resolutions to exercise more, read more, spend more time with loved ones, stress less, or make good career and relationship choices. It is also traditional for many people to give up on these resolutions before the end of January. Is there a way to begin the year better?

January 10, 2016

“Fighting Childhood Poverty”

– Rev. Paul Oakley

The Social Action Team has selected as the focus for this church year to fight child poverty, a problem that our nation has the resources to overcome. We can easily argue for solving this issue on emotional or economic grounds, and so we must. But what are the ethical or moral principles that can guide us to expend our energy and resources for the well-being of the most vulnerable?

January 17, 2016

“Race in America 2016”

– Rev. Paul Oakley

When Barack Obama took office as President of the USA on January 20, 2009, many white Americans felt like the struggle for racial equality had reached its conclusion. Much has happened since then to show how far we still are from achieving Martin Luther King’s dream. What is the current state of affairs, and how can we move forward?

January 24, 2016 “Some There Be Which Have No Memorial” - Barbara Wright

UUFW member Barbara Wright will present an interesting description of the development of Shenandoah National Park in the 30's and the displacement of 500+ families who lived within the proposed park boundaries.

January 31, 2016 “The Flame in Our Chalice” - Multigenerational

On this Sunday after the service, we will have a naming ceremony for our house followed by our social hour in the great room. UUFW members voted to name the house Chalice House, so this multigenerational service will look at the Unitarian Universalist symbol of the flaming chalice and explore the ways it inspires or anchors us.

Saturday, February 6, 2016 and Sunday, February 7, 2016

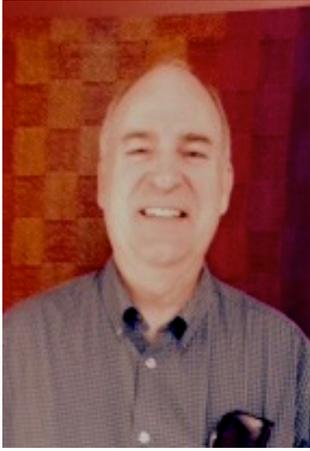
Pulpit Exchange between Rev. Paul Oakley and Rabbi Joe Blair

Rev. Paul invites you to join with him in this two-part exchange, in which he will preach on Saturday morning at Temple House of Israel in Staunton, and Rabbi Joe will preach at UUFW the next day, on Sunday morning. Additional details will be shared as soon as available.

***Please join
us for the
installation of
the Rev. Paul
Oakley as the
UUFW's
settled
minister.***

***See inside
for details!***

Minister's Column, Rev. Paul Oakley



I am sitting down to write these words on Christmas Day, having last night completed the special holiday services for this year. I look out my dining room window and see three cardinals flitting from branch to branch in my nearly bare willow oak. Such joy from such a simple experience!

I am reminded of an internet meme that reads, "I opened two gifts this morning. They were my eyes." It is a sentiment we can continue in so many ways – maybe with "I couldn't help stepping on two more." We know, though, that the gifts each one enjoys are not shared by all. And for some of us, that makes the metaphor of the "gift" problematic. Too capricious. Maybe it hurts too much to think that God or the universe deals so unequally with us. Or for some, the metaphor just doesn't feel very descriptive. Each part of the cosmos experiences its own unique reality that comes together from the meeting of countless causes and effects and choices. But however we respond and with whatever words we think about what we experience, some part of our experience can surprise us with unexpected joy. And for this we can be grateful.

I come down to the end of the year 2015, grateful and full of joy even as my heart, just like yours, has also been touched by sorrow. I end this waning year thankful for life, for love, for ministry, and for each of you. Happy New Year! May this new year come to each one with sustaining blessings! And may we be sustaining blessings to each other!

~ ~ ~

Some may be wondering why we *still* have a Black Lives Matter sign up in our sanctuary when that was a sermon and adult class topic in October... or why it is at the front of the room rather than at the back... or why it is also in my office window where it is visible from the street. The simplest answer is that the problem this slogan and movement challenge us to act toward solving is still a problem that is central to our society. The old phrase "Out of sight, out of mind" describes one aspect of how our minds work. We must not let that be the pattern of our approach to justice. As your minister, I want to remind myself and all of you with me that we need to grow our commitments to justice rather than risk thinking of them as topics on a calendar of sermons and classes.

The sign is my voice, from your minister to you, calling out that there is something we all need to come back to over and over together, to strive with for as long as it takes. It is not just a topic. It is a matter of life and death.

~ ~ ~

My gratitude to those of you have asked when we will have a memorial for Will Page. I have been in touch with Will's family, who have not yet stated their plans, though they did suggest that they may wait until spring for a memorial. Over the next weeks, I will try to learn how those plans have developed. We will make our memorial plans at the Fellowship in coordination with the family, if possible, and will announce memorial plans once settled. Thank you for waiting with me in this uncertainty.

The UUFW Vision and Mission Task Force needs YOU!

We cannot create a Vision and Mission without the involvement of UUFW members and friends. Yet how does one small Task Force create curiosity...interest...involvement?

- a. Change the start time
- b. Answer what, when, where and especially why
- c. Magic
- d. Prizes

OK!

- a. In October the board hoped to begin the work of developing a Vision and Mission for the UUFW. But life got in the way and this work was postponed. **January** we will begin again.
- b. **Find out more** about the Vision and Mission development process and how it will bring us together, move us forward and help define our future as a congregation by attending the **UUFW Congregational Outreach Meeting on Sunday, January 24 at 10am** (Town Hall style meeting).
- c. The **Magic** will come.
- d. We'll see about the **Prizes** – do coffee and muffins count?

If you have questions or comments and ESPECIALLY IF you are interested in being a part of this inspiring work please contact Debora Hoard at deborahoard@gmail.com. (We are looking for a couple more people (men in particular) with a passion for our future as the UUFW to join us.)

Social Action Team News

The Social Action Team presented information on Sunday 11/22 on the **Immigrant Children Project** at the Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Detention Center (Thanks Karen Reed for heading this up!) and took up a special collection of \$516.00 toward purchasing items for the “journey bags” for the teens when they leave the center. A BIG THANK YOU to all who donated that day!

On Sunday 12/20/15, the Social Action Team took up a special collection for the **Verona Food Pantry**. The total was a wonderful \$846.00!!! Hurray and thanks to all who donated to this wonderful group that helps feed the working poor in our area. The Social Action Team has been volunteering for many years on the 5th Tuesday evening and INVITE anyone who wishes to help to come. You don't have to be a member of the SAT

to participate! The families who come are wonderful people and you would enjoy meeting them! Thanks again!!

The Transatlantic Brides, along with UUFW facility support, have been very successful in their fundraising efforts over the years. At the recent tenth **English Tea** for charity, the Transatlantic Brides were able to donate \$675 to the Valley Program for Aging Services, whose main office is further down Pine Avenue. Since their first tea in April, 2011 this small group of 8 women have raised \$7,670 for various charities.

The next **Disciple's Kitchen** lunch will be Monday, January 18. If you would like to help or make cookies contact Latane Long, lwlong@cfw.com or 943-2632.

Activities

The **Zen Meditation** group meets every Sunday, 7:30 in the Chalice House. Everyone is welcomed. For more information contact Ben Pumphrey at ben.pumphrey@gmail.com.



The Yoga Group meets every Tuesday, 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend this free class.

wreed@ntelos.net.

The Old Time Music Jam meets every Tuesday at 7 pm in the RE building. Both musicians and listeners are encouraged to attend. For more info contact Will Reed, 949-6191 or

Brown Baggers/UUFW Women are a group of women that meet purely for social reasons the third Wednesday of every month at 11:30 am. On January 20 they will meet at Abbie Edwards home in Waynesboro, 448 Raleigh Court. Let Abbie know if you are coming, edwardsac014@aol.com or 221-2598. Remember to bring your lunch. The hostess provides drinks and dessert.



The UUFW Choir, also known as the Pine Nuts welcomes any and all participants. The January practice sessions will be Wednesday, January 20 at 2:30 pm and Monday, February 1 at 7 pm. The choir will sing February 7. For information please contact Bill or Lorain Harouff at harouffs@gmail.com or 885-3000.

The Third Sunday Potluck Lunch is scheduled for January 17. Middle European (Hungary, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria and such) is the theme. Food plan B: A-G brings a vegetable or salad, H-M brings a main dish, N-Z brings a dessert or bread. Please bring enough for 8 people.

TrUUvel: TRUUVEL night on Friday, January 15th, 7 pm will be a trip to India. Wear some comfy duds, bring a small treat to share on the snack table, and settle in for a hassle-free adventure. You don't even have to pack and there is NO jet lag at all! In January 2007, Barbro Hansson and her husband Tom Robinson traveled to India to visit their son who was working in New Delhi then. In this TRUUVEL presentation, Barbro will share the experience and show highlights from the trip, which took them to a variety of Hindu, Buddhist and Muslim sites, including Varanasi, the spiritual capitol of India, Bodh Gaya, the place where Siddhartha Gautama reached enlightenment, Kolkata, the commercial, cultural and education centre of East India, and the Taj Mahal, the awe inspiring white marble mausoleum completed in 1643.



Stone Soup Book Club- Join the group Tuesday January 19 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. For this month's book or for more info contact Mary Katharine Froehlich, 540-943-0084 or mary@stonesoupbooks.net.

The Stone Soup Poetry Group ("Of Vine and Verse") is a very casual meeting of folks who love poetry. They meet in the RE building on the fourth Monday of every month from 5:30-6:30 pm. The next meeting is Monday, January 25. Bring a favorite poem to share or just come to enjoy others' favorites. For additional information contact Karen Reed, 949-6191 or claylady@ntelos.net.

LDS (Let's Do Subtitles movie group) will meet Friday, January 8 to view a Polish film, "Ida". A light soup dinner is served at 6 pm and the movie follows. BYOB.

Upcoming Special Events and Opportunities!

From 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Wednesday, January 20, Mary Baldwin College will hold its Winter Faith Fair. Rev. Paul invites a few of you who have that time free to join him in representing our Fellowship and Unitarian Universalism to the students. We will share conversation and pamphlets with those who stop by our table, broadening awareness of who we are and what we stand for.

Please join Rev. Paul and Tom Twomey for a two-session class on ending child poverty in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30 to 8:00 PM on Thursday, January 21 and Thursday, January 28. In the first session, we will solidify our understanding of the problem and consider ways to address it. In the second, we will work together on a response from our congregation, including crafting a letter to legislators.

House Naming Celebration

After the service on January 31 our children and youth will welcome us to their primary Fellowship home. We will all gather for a brief ceremony in front of our magnificent house and formally name it “Chalice House.” The coffee hour will be held in the living room. You will want to be there for this special event in the life of UUFW.

Installation of the Rev. Paul Oakley

Saturday, February 13, beginning at 2:00 PM, the Fellowship will formally install Rev. Paul as our settled minister. Following the service of installation there will be a reception. Please mark the day on your calendar and plan to be present to celebrate together this milestone in the life of our congregation. Through the interim period and the search process, the Fellowship worked hard. Now it is time for celebration of the fruit of those efforts.



UUFW Calendar for January 2016

This calendar is subject to change. Please check for updates at www.uufw.org.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
RE schedule: OWL 10-11:30 Primary/Elem - 11 am Youth/Young Adults 11:30		Yoga, 5:00 Music Jam, 7 pm			1	2
3 "Mindful Beginnings", 11:00 Rev. Paul RE Team, 9:30 Zen Meditation, 7:30 pm	4	5 Yoga, 5:00 Music Jam, 7 pm	6	7	8 Let's Do Subtitles, 6 pm	9
10 "Fighting Childhood Poverty", 11 am, Rev. Paul Parent Group, 12:30 Zen Meditation, 7:30 pm	11	12 Yoga, 5:00 Music Jam, 7 pm	13 Board Meeting, 7 pm	14	15 TrUUvel, 7 pm	16
17 "Race in America 20216", 11 am, Rev. Paul Third Sunday Potluck Zen Meditation, 7:30 pm	18 Disciple's Kitchen	19 Yoga, 5:00 Book Club, 6:30 Music Jam, 7 pm	20 Brown Baggers, 11:30 MBC Winter Faith Fair Choir, 2:30 pm	21 Ending Child Poverty, 6:30 pm	22	23
24 "Some There Be That Have No Memorial" 11 am, Barbara Wright Congregational Outreach Mtg, 10 am Finance Team 10 am Zen Meditation, 7:30 pm	25 Poetry Group, 5:30	26 Yoga, 5:00 Music Jam, 7 pm	27	28 Ending Child Poverty, 6:30 pm	29	30
31 "The Flame in Our Chalice", 11 am, multigenerational Finance Team, 10 am Zen Meditation, 7:30 pm	Feb 1 Choir, 7 pm					

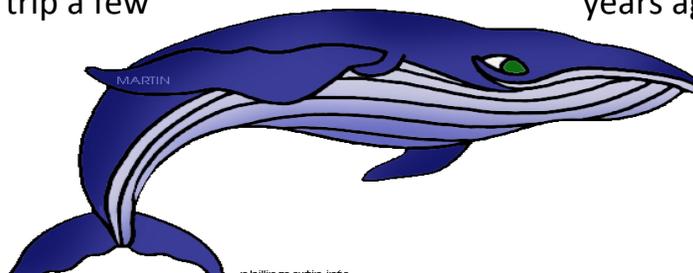
Easy but very important volunteer jobs on Sunday include being a Lay Leader, providing refreshments for Coffee Hour, and greeting people as they enter the service. Please sign up regularly on the sheets at the back of the Fellowship Hall.

The UUFW Caring Network consists of Fellowship members who have volunteered to coordinate support for other members in times of special need. If you learn about or are yourself facing such a circumstance, please contact Hinda Richards, coordinator, at 887-7515 or hindabob@comcast.net and also Rev. Paul at minister@uufw.org or 540-447-4898.

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Hinda Richards	540-887-7515	hindabob@comcast.net	Coordinator

WhaleCoast Alaska 2016

Have you ever dreamed of visiting Alaska? If so, **WhaleCoast Alaska 2016** is for you! Four Alaska UU fellowships invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program next summer! See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Seward, and Sitka with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, seals, and otters. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Forget the cruise ships – our program is the best way to visit Alaska! Programs led by Dave Frey, member of the Fairbanks UU congregation and Alaska travel expert. Find out more about this Alaskan trip of a lifetime. Visit www.WhaleCoastAK.org, email dfrey@whalecoastak.org, or call 907-322-4966. We would love to share our Alaska with you! (The Nashes experienced this trip a few years ago and had a fabulous time.)



The Reverend Paul Oakley, Minister

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Usual Office Hours: TU and TH 2:00-5:00, WE and FR 10:00-2:00. Reserve by appointment.

Christina Rivera, Director of Religious Education

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Caring Network	Hinda Richards	540-887-7515	hindabob@comcast.net
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Additional Valued Assistants

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	Blake Clark	540-248-0228	careerdev.clark@gmail.com
Pianist	Virginia Edwards	540-943-0091	
Choir Director	Charlotte Shnaider	540-886-0517	charsing@comcast.net
Webmasters	Kim/Geoff Newton	540-448-3915	kimberlynewton27@gmail.com

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