

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF WILMINGTON



BEACON JUNE 2019

OFFICE HOURS

MINISTER

REV. CHERYL M. WALKER

TUESDAY 11AM – 4PM

WEDNESDAY 11AM – 4PM

THURSDAY 11AM – 4PM

AND BY APPOINTMENT

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LESLIE O'CONNOR

MONDAY 10:30AM - 3:30PM

WEDNESDAY 10:30AM - 3:30PM

THURSDAY 10:30AM - 3:30PM

ADMINISTRATOR

JULIE BURCHAM

TUESDAY 9AM – 2PM

WEDNESDAY 9AM – 2PM

THURSDAY 9AM – 2PM

FRIDAY 9AM – 2PM

***SUBJECT TO CHANGE - PLEASE CALL
AHEAD**

JUNE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JUNE 2	TEEN W/ REV. CHERYL
JUNE 9	REV. CHERYL W/ CHOIR
JUNE 16	WORSHIP TEAM
JUNE 21	WORSHIP TEAM
JUNE 30	REV. CHERYL

UUCWNC BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: BILL SINGLETON
VICE PRESIDENT: DON SMITH
SECRETARY: TAMMY ELLISON
KAREN GOTTOVI
MIKE HOSICK
MELTON MCLAURIN
RICK NIDA
BETH O'CONNELL
PAMELA WAITE

TREASURER: JOHN GRIGSBY

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Last month was a busy travel month for me. I was in Calgary, New York and Denver. And I packed wrong for each of them. There was snow in Calgary, which I didn't expect in May and the weather forecast did not predict. It was unusually warm in New York, which the weather forecast did not predict. And it snowed in Denver, which the weather forecast did not predict. Clearly, I have been using the wrong weather forecasting website. And now it has been unusually hot in Wilmington. It's a bit of a shock to the system to get on a plane wearing a coat because it's only 35 degrees and get off of a plane overdressed because it's 93 degrees. What to do, what to wear?

The weather is something we can do nothing about other than accept it as it is and cope with what it brings. It is a reminder that we humans, individually and collectively, are not in control of things. We may develop knowledge about things, but that does not mean control over them. There are just some things that we must accept.

Acceptance is not the same as being passive. When we are passive we give up all of our agency. Acceptance is using whatever agency we have to deal with whatever we are facing. We cannot necessarily change what is or has happened, but we can change how we will contend with what is or has happened. Acceptance is knowing what our truth is, accepting the reality of our lives and then making choices to live our lives as best as we can.

Life is not always a smooth journey. There are days when everything is going our way, and our plans come to fruition. And there are times when we are challenged by life and our circumstances. Whether life is smooth as glass, or as rough as rocks, life requires us to change. The first step in changing is acceptance. We must first accept that we need to change. Usually we will need a change of attitude. Perhaps we need to learn gratitude in the face of adversity, or humility in the face of good fortune. Whatever it is we need to learn, we begin by accepting the fact that we need to learn, need to change.

Not everything needs to change, in fact some things about us will not change. It's as if they are hardwired into our DNA. And that requires acceptance too. It requires that we accept our shadows as well as our lights. Learning to love who we are and who we are not is part of accepting ourselves. Once we learn that lesson, we can then learn how to accept others. They are who they are, they are not who they are not. In our faith community, Unitarian Universalism, we learn to accept ourselves and accept others. Acceptance, not tolerance, is our goal. When we say we believe in the inherent worth and dignity of every person, we mean we accept people for who they are. Not always what they do, but surely for who they are.

Let us learn acceptance together. We will be better for it.

Many kind blessings,
Rev. Cheryl



REflections



This past Sunday (May 26th) was a transition week between our school-year youth religious education classes and our more relaxed summer program. The children learned about symbols and symbolism and they correctly identified the meaning of many symbols that we shared: the peace dove, peace sign, the recycling symbol (arrows going around in a triangle shape) the Christian cross, the Jewish star and even a ‘school crossing’ sign. We talked about the UU chalice, and how it became the symbol of our faith. We then explored the congregation’s building and grounds, looking for symbols that are meaningful to Unitarian Universalists. We found the motherload on either side of the main entrance to our church building. Peace, hope, respect, fellowship and justice were just some of the symbols that we found there, and we talked about how each one relates to one of our UU principles. To honor our ancestors in faith on Memorial Day, we walked back to our UUCWNC Memorial Garden in the woods, and paid respect to the symbols of love left there for those in our congregation who have passed.

We had a lively discussion about what a ritual is, and what rituals we participate in every day. Our morning routines, our teacher’s instructions to line up quietly and not to run when going down the hallways at school, caring for our pets and our bedtime routines are examples of rituals from home and school. Even during the more relaxed summer months, our youth’s Sunday school classes parallel the adult services by gathering and lighting a chalice, sharing joys and sorrows and passing a basket for contributions. We extinguish the chalice by wishing each other a happy week, until we are together again. Sound familiar?

Each year, at the end of the school calendar, the children vote on how they want the money they contributed throughout the year to be distributed – 1/3 goes to the congregation’s general fund, 1/3 goes to a local organization and 1/3 goes to a global organization. You would’ve been so impressed, and even touched, by the dialogue around this. Our teachers did their homework and presented several options of reliable charitable partners. The children agreed that having enough food to eat and a home to live in is the most critical concern for those who are less fortunate, and so our local charity this year is the Good Shepard Center. Our global recipient is the Malala Fund, which breaks down the barriers preventing more than 130 million girls around the world from going to school.

I hope your child will join us this summer for ‘Silly Science Sunday’ classes, where we will focus on our fourth principle – the love of learning and seeking the truth – by conducting a different science experiment each week. We’re also looking for volunteers to lead a Sunday session – all lesson plans will be provided with necessary materials prepared for you. Please sign up for a Sunday of your choice by emailing DRE@UUCWNC.org

Shalom, Leslie O’Connor, Director of Religious Education

Not-Just-for-Parents Resource:

FOLLOW-UP OUR RE DISCUSSIONS OF GENEROSITY AND FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO HELPING ORGANIZATIONS BY TAKING THE LESSONS HOME. THE CENTER FOR PARENTING EDUCATION OFFERS A VARIETY OF ARTICLES, LINKS, AND ACTIVITIES TO HELP PARENTS AND CHILDREN TALK TOGETHER ABOUT BRINGING THEIR VALUES TO MONEY DECISIONS. [HTTP://CENTERFORPARENTINGEDUCATION.ORG/LIBRARY-OF-ARTICLES/INDULGENCE-VALUES/](http://centerforparentingeducation.org/library-of-articles/indulgence-values/)

GENEROUS LIFE TEAM



Living the Generous Life

“Developing your generous nature enables you to move beyond need and desire. Generosity helps you recognize that you are and have ‘enough’. You already possess an abundance of gifts. These gifts only have meaning through developing and sharing them.” Scott Perry

Over the past two years, the Generous Life Team has researched generosity and collected a variety of generosity quotes. Scott Perry’s quote has become one of our favorites. We know that life is richer and has more meaning when we develop and share our gifts.

We thank all of you who pledged your financial support to fund the Unitarian Universalists Congregation of Wilmington for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1. Our total pledge amount was \$ 216,497.00, an increase of 2.7% over last year. This increase in our budget provides for cost of living raises for our staff, a greater level of giving to the Unitarian Universalists Association, insurance increases due to rising rates, and supports the many programs and teams within the Congregation.

As we reflect on this year’s stewardship theme, “All Are Welcome at Our Table”, we look forward to living our values aloud, not alone. Our spiritual community cares for each other, and helps us to lead lives of justice, love, learning, and hope.

Your contributions make it possible to build and maintain this space, to provide educational programs to explore our values and spirituality, to learn about other faiths and discover that we can make a difference in the world, to bring our time and talents together to create a rich and vibrant community, and to bring everyone to the table to create a better tomorrow.

We are extremely appreciative of your generosity! Thank You for making this year’s pledge campaign successful!



Cottage Meeting Report

Part Two: Recommendations

The Generous Life Team worked to compile and organize the suggestions offered in the cottage meetings into a form that could be easily implemented. We grouped the suggestions into two primary categories: Member Engagement and Operational Support. These areas will be addressed by two teams.

The Member Engagement Team will be led by Sylvia Quinn and will focus on reaching out to new members to ensure they have a clear pathway to involvement with the church and creating more opportunities for members to engage with one another. This might include such things as offering a buddy system for new members to help them navigate the many opportunities offered by the church, developing more small group activities (e.g., book discussions, chalice circles, affinity groups, etc.), and creating a picture directory of members. These ideas are only some examples gathered from the cottage attendees and are not meant to be inclusive of all the ideas shared. Instead, these examples are offered to provide members a sense of the group's focus.

The Operational Support Team will be led by Heidi Kaufman. They will work with church staff to identify, analyze and fix the gaps in our overall operations and to support the effective operation of the church. Their initial focus will be on improving information and communication flow. This could include such things as updating the website with more accurate information, creating a master calendar of events and activities (that may not be currently captured in the monthly calendars), and exploring ways to help ensure the Beacon is more widely read by members. As with the possible activities of the Member Engagement Team noted above, these examples do not include all of the cottage meeting suggestions but are offered to provide a sense of the team's work.

Both teams will meet in the fall to develop their missions and goals for the coming year. If you are interested in joining either group (or in working on activities related to either group), please reach out to Sylvia or Heidi. We're excited and energized about these new initiatives!

C



C is for Care



The Generous Life Team (GLT) acknowledges the many volunteers who provide their time and talents to make UUCWNC a special place for each of us to grow our faith.



This month we highlight the Care Team. These dedicated individuals act in concert with the minister to provide short term support, care and assistance to UU members and friends who are experiencing illness, injury or crisis. They coordinate meals, rides to church or the doctor, much needed errands or simply a friendly visit. In this way they support us all!



Thank you

Care Team Members!

Top to bottom: Diane H., Jane L., Betsy D., Kim S., Kami O., Tina S., Jeannie L., Rev. Cheryl, and Carol Anne D.

Full Moon Gathering for June 2019



June's Full Moon is named the **Strawberry Moon**. Eastern North American Indian tribes were responsible for the naming of this moon. As this was the season for the ripening of the wild strawberry, the tribes would love to gather for the picking of the fruit!!

The June 2019 Full Moon gathering will be on Tuesday evening June 18 at 7:00pm at the home of Kathleen C. Kelley will also be our High Priestess. We will be celebrating Summer Solstice and the goddesses that influence us and our homes especially during the Full Moons.

All women of any age are welcomed to these gatherings, however the number in attendance will be determined by the hostess depending on how many women that she can accommodate. So, if you would like to attend, please RSVP to the Full Moon's email address, fullmoon@uufwilmington.org.

This website can also be used for any questions or for information about the Full Moon gatherings.



NEWS from the MEMBERSHIP team

The Membership Team is in need of around **2-3 new members**. Members of the Membership Team are responsible for staffing the Welcome Table at all Sunday morning services. In addition, helping sometimes with the Welcome Classes, New Member Recognition Sunday or other incidental membership tasks are also part of the Membership Team's life!!

Our Membership Team consists of genuinely friendly and caring individuals who are concerned with making sure that all people entering UUCWNC feel welcomed, and for those who desire to become members, we offer information and help with the process of membership.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Membership Team, please contact Diane Miller, dianewhitt@bellsouth.net or call the church office.

The WELCOME Table



The mission of the Welcome Table is to provide a warm welcome on Sunday mornings **to our visitors, members and friends**. In addition to providing *Welcoming*, the Welcome Table provides *information about our church* and in particular *Membership. Childcare and church activities information* is also given out at the Table. Please stop by the Welcome Table for this information or just to say hello!

GREETING



Please consider greeting on Sunday mornings. Just stop by the Welcome Table after Sunday services to sign up for a date/s to greet!

Membership team: Tim Gugan, Diane Miller, Tina Schenk, Becki Schreiber, Kami O'Keeffe and Rev. Cheryl M. Walker.



Caring Committee

Acting in concert with the minister, the Caring Committee provides short term support, care and assistance to UUCWNC members and friends who are experiencing illness, injury or crisis. Members of this team, and often our wonderful wider congregation, are available to help if you need assistance with shopping or meals during an illness, if you need for someone to take you to a medical appointment (and wait with you if required), or just need someone to visit you at home or elsewhere and listen. Your personal information will be held in the strictest confidence or shared with the congregation only at your request.

If you are looking for a way to make a difference in our community, consider becoming a member of the Caring Committee, or just let us know that you are available to make a meal, provide a ride, or a visit when the need arises. To join or offer your services, please contact any of our members: Carol Anne Davis, Diane Halley, Jeannie Lennon, Jane Linn, Kami O'Keeffe, Betsy Randall-David, Tina Schenk and Rev. Cheryl M. Walker. The Chair for the month of June is Diane Halley.



Thank you to all who participated in the Variety Show! Also, thank you if you came as a spectator! What's a performance with no spectators?

A special thank you goes out to Ed and Martha Brophy for setting up all their wonderful sound equipment. It made an otherwise great show, even better!

We'll see y'all next year! Newcomers to the Variety Show are ALWAYS welcome! Remember, talent is optional! Don't be shy!

10 YEAR CELEBRATION

Members and Friends of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington! -Save the Date(s)!

You may know that our minister Rev. Cheryl M. Walker is now the longest-serving minister in our Congregation's history! We'll be celebrating her tenure with us in late September. We'll have at least two (2) opportunities to celebrate. First - an evening reception on **Saturday, September 28th** and then a wonderful Potluck Lunch after the second Service on **Sunday, September 29th**. Plans are also underway for at least one other event earlier in the week, but let's just start with asking you to save that weekend, so you can enjoy some time with us celebrating our Reverend Cheryl. Stay tuned for more information!

Thank you,

Thea Hagepanos and the RCPPT (Rev. Cheryl Party Planning Team!)

JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26 10:15 AM Worship Service (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	27	<p>28 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 12:30 PM ROMEO's Lunch 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>29 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>30 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>31 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>1 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3) 1:00 PM Sewing Mats for Homeless (D)</p>
<p>2 ANNUAL MEETING 10:15 AM Worship Service (S) 11:45 AM Annual Meeting (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	3	<p>4 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>5 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 5:30 PM Social Justice Advisory Group (C1) 6:00 PM Navigator Scouts (D) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>6 12:00 PM Ministerial Round Table (D) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>7 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>8 8:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 9:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3) 6:30 PM Wilmington Progressive Coalition Potluck (D)</p>
<p>9 10:15 AM Worship Service (S) 11:15 AM CHURCH PICNIC 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	10	<p>11 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 12:30 PM ROMEO's Lunch 1:00 PM Chalice Quilters (A1) 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Grow Your Soul (C1) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>12 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Progressive Book Club (D) 6:00 PM Worship Meeting (C2) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>13 5:45 PM Caring Committee (C2) 6:30 PM BOT: Exec. Meeting 6:30 PM Grow Your Soul (C1) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>14 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3) 6:30 PM WAJS (C2)</p>	<p>15 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3)</p>
<p>16 10:15 AM Worship Service (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	<p>17 6:30 PM UU Book Group (D)</p>	<p>18 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>19 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Navigator Scouts (D) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>20 5:30 PM Set up Board Mtg (S) 6:00 PM Board Meeting (S) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>21 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 12:30 PM Rumi Reading Group (D) 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>22 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3)</p>
<p>23 10:15 AM Worship Service (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	24	<p>25 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 12:30 PM ROMEO's Lunch 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>26 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Progressive Book Club (D) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>27 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>28 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>29 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3)</p>
<p>30 10:15 AM Worship Service (S) 4:30 PM Set up SSC (S, C1,2) 5:00 PM Spiritual Soul Center (S) (C2,1) 6:00 PM AA Group (D) 6:00 PM Clean-up SSC (S, C1,2)</p>	1	<p>2 10:30 AM Yoga (D) 1:00 PM Gentle Yoga (D) 6:00 PM S-Anon (C2) 6:30 PM Set up Zen 6:50 PM Zen Group (D)</p>	<p>3 10:00 AM AA Group (D) 5:00 PM Recorder Consort Practice (S) 6:00 PM Navigator Scouts (D) 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>4 12:00 PM Ministerial Round Table (D) 7:00 PM SMART Recovery (A2) 7:00 PM WPYG (D)</p>	<p>5 8:00 AM Weekly Cleaning 1:00 PM Mah Jongg Group (C3)</p>	<p>6 10:00 AM Set Up AA Group (D, C3) 11:00 AM AA Group (D)(C3)</p>