

UUCRV NEWS

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Visit us at www.uucrv.org



January 2019

Monthly Schedule

6 – Allen Harden

13 – Lay Led using Touchstones, *“Grace”*

16 – 10:30, small Group Discussion – *Grace* – To be held at Jessica’s Restaurant in Roscoe. Call Connie Matusiak for more information.

20 – Allen Harden

27 – **Ray Herzer** – *“Laughter is the Best Medicine”*

Minister’s Musings

Greetings, and best wishes for the New Year to each and every one of you. I hope 2019 brings many good tidings -- peace, prosperity, love, and kindness – to all. You each deserve to feel fulfillment in your lives, to drink from the sweet well of security and happiness. Given the goings-on in the public arena these days, you might feel there is good reason to be concerned about the future. But that is all the more reason for us to hold our own heads high, to focus on things we believe to really matter, and to each take the steps we can to make our world better, kinder, fairer. We shore up each other as we search for our paths to comfort and goodness.



I have been among you, serving this congregation, for one full year. Initially, I signed a contract to serve as Minister to UUCRV through June 2019, or for six more months. I am thrilled to announce that your Board and I have agreed that we will extend this contract by one year, through June 2020. We agree that this will be good on many levels. UUCRV should benefit from continuity of clerical leadership as we continue working to

define the role of professional ministry in your community. I am becoming well acclimated to UUCRV, the congregants, and the Stateline area. I would love the opportunity to build on the work we have done and to learn from and capitalize on opportunities missed during this past year.

Mostly, I am excited because I like UUCRV, its members, and its friends. I truly believe that you have captured something special in this church, and that we should invest our hearts and souls in keeping our congregation vital. We each need this congregation, and the area needs our message of tolerance, welcoming, and lived justice.

We also must recognize that continuation of UUCRV is not automatic, and not a given. While our small size brings the comfort of familial feeling, close relationships, and intimacy; it also renders us susceptible to disruption. We need to become more intentional about putting our message before persons who would benefit from connecting to and participating in a community like ours. We must spread the word well enough so other searchers and seekers, lovers of the earth, crusaders for justice, skeptics and heretics, mystics and meditators – engaged persons of all kinds can learn that there is a home that is ready to respect their thoughts and encourage their aspirations. This year, we will work together towards this end. –Allen

A Unitarian Universalist died, and to his surprise discovered that there was indeed an afterlife. The angel in charge of these things told him, "Because you were an unbeliever and a doubter and a skeptic, you will be sent to Hell for all eternity—which, in your case, consists of a place where no one will disagree with you ever again!"

Committee Information

Worship: The Worship Committee needs new members. New ideas are always welcomed and discussed. Please consider joining the Committee. Contact Wendy, Jerry, Lynda, Lee, Christopher, Kara or Denny for further information.

I, again, am asking for UUCRV Members and Friends to be Worship Associates on the 4th and/or 5th Sundays of the month. *Committee Membership is **NOT** required.* Contact Wendy if you would like more information. - Wendy Edgington

"I know my humor is outrageous when it makes the Unitarians so mad they burn a question mark on my front lawn." - Lenny Bruce

Birthdays

27 - Brock Heckel

Famous Unitarians

- John Quincy Adams - US president
- Louisa May Alcott - children's writer
- P. T. Barnum - circus owner
- Béla Bartók - composer
- Dorothea Dix - social reformer
- Ralph Waldo Emerson - writer and thinker
- Elizabeth Gaskell - novelist
- Edvard Greig - composer
- Sylvia Plath - poet
- Mary Wollstonecraft - feminist
- Christopher Reeve - actor
- Tim Berners-Lee - creator of the world wide web
- Pete Seeger - musician
- Lord Bullock - historian



HAPPY
New Year



Regional Assembly
2019 MidAmerica Regional Assembly
UUA Districts & Regions
By MidAmerica Region of the UUA

The 2019 MidAmerica Regional Assembly is coming sooner than you think! This year, our RA will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, at the Marriott St Louis, April 5-7, 2019.

The theme is “Intersectionalities”—how we live, work, and relate, as well as share, withhold, and leverage power in our world. Presentations and workshops will explore identities we encounter and embody, the challenges of social inequality, and tools and skills we need in order to work more effectively with one another, as well as the general “nuts and bolts” of congregational life, such as leadership, stewardship, membership, and religious education. Our Keynote Presenter will be UUA President, Susan Frederick-Gray. Join us to explore, share, and worship with fellow Unitarian Universalists.

Why the concept of “intersectionality” has inspired us in the MidAmerica Region

Twenty-eight years ago, Kimberlé Crenshaw coined the term “intersectionality” in a paper as a way to help explain the oppression of African-American women.

A leading thinker and scholar in the field of critical race theory, Crenshaw, a professor at Columbia Law School, directs the Center for Intersectionality and Social Policy Studies and is a co-founder of the African American Policy Forum

[As she explains,] “Intersectionality is a lens through which you can see where power comes and collides, where it interlocks and intersects. It’s not simply that there’s a race problem here, a gender problem here, and a class or LGBTQ problem there. Many times that framework erases what happens to people who are subject to all of these things.”

Excerpted from <https://www.law.columbia.edu/pt-br/news/2017/06/kimberle-crenshaw-intersectionality...>

EDITOR’S NOTE: Christopher and I are planning to attend the Assembly this year - there are 2 more spots available in my car if you are interested in carpooling. Contact me if you are. Wendy Edgington



2018-19 Officers

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