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# UUFC NEWSLETTER

May  
 2018

*“This is what religion looks like for us - not just speculation and opinions, but true meeting and connection.”*

## Between Us.

May has always felt like a time of possibility to me – a time of beginnings and new growth. Maybe because all my memories of May are of beautiful springtime, or maybe because my birthday is in May? This year it is the same, and I am so grateful, because I need the pull of possibility to open my heart and wake up my spirit. Maybe you do too?

I feel that we are riding on a rising tide – of companionship and progress, of truth-telling and change. It’s happening in our country, and at the Fellowship. This month in more than 40 states, the Poor People’s Campaign will give voice to the continuing moral failures of militarism, racism, poverty, and environmental destruction. The UUA is actively involved in this movement, as are many organizations in Corvallis and Oregon, including the Fellowship. Non-violent actions at state houses begin on May

14. More information will be included in our upcoming Justice Newsletter. Also, this month we’ll join many other UU congregations in supporting the Black Lives UU movement – another way to bridge historic divides and address decades of internal systemic racism. Each congregation is asked to raise \$10 per member for this effort. We’ll hold our special collection on Sunday May 13.

At the Fellowship, we’ve had a year of governance changes. Many of us have talked to each other about important projects and concerns in town halls, discussion groups and connection circles. Our annual meeting on Saturday, May 19, will be done in a new way, to celebrate all the talking and thinking and working together. In addition to voting on the budget, board and nominating committee for 2018-19, we may

be able to take a straw-poll on the revised draft of the new by-laws that evening. The by-laws revision is a great example of working together. Already nearly 50 people in three meetings, plus e-mail communication, have added to the discussion and helped shape the updates. Thank you all!

This is what religion looks like for us – not just speculation and opinions, not just attending on Sundays, but also true meeting and connection. This is how we do the work of spiritual maturing and deepening – by engaging with each other to answer the calls of the world around us. And we are certainly doing these things – meeting, connecting, engaging and answering. Do you feel these movements too? So much is growing, and so much is possible, within us, and especially between us. Keep coming! The tide is definitely rising..... -Jill

# Governance

## Board News

### Stewardship Pledge Drive Off to Strong Start

The annual Stewardship pledge drive has entered its third week and will conclude on May 13. Many thanks to all members and friends who responded with record-breaking enthusiasm to the first week of online-only pledging - over 120 pledges gathered in seven days! The momentum of such a strong start will surely help us, together, to reach the pledge drive goals of 300 pledges and \$400,000. As you consider your pledge for the coming year, remember that you are never asked to give more than you can. But each individual or family is asked to carefully consider what their part is in supporting what we have built together, at the UUFC, for ourselves and for the greater community. As others have said before, give until it feels good! You can learn more about this years pledge drive and ways that you can submit your pledge at <https://tinyurl.com/UUFCpledge2018>.

### Bylaws Revision

The Board carefully reviewed the discussion notes and comments received during the March 17 Bylaws Town Hall and the April 22 Bylaws Discussion. Along with general language clarifications, revisions of note include reincorporating submission of the budget for congregational approval, adjusting upward the percentage of members constituting a quorum, and further clarifying the Board officer and member roles and terms. Substantial member participation in the Bylaws revision discussions has been gratifying and continues the year-long effort of seeking to be more inclusive and

intentional in the ways that we consider and address issues of importance to the Fellowship.

### Nominating Committee Proposes Slate

For the Board of Directors:  
President - Craig Olbrich;  
Treasurer - Herky Gottfried;  
Secretary - Jerry Buthman;  
Director - Brooke Landberg;  
Director - Daniel Landberg.

For the Nominating Committee:  
Rich Brainerd, Bobbi Johnston, Lorene Hales, and Alan Kirk. A huge thank you to all of these members for agreeing to be nominated and to the Nominating Committee for their work to develop the slate of candidates.

Voting will take place on Saturday evening, May 19, at the Annual Meeting, and will include the proposed 2018-19 budget as well as

these nominees. Plus we'll review and celebrate (!) the past year in the life and work of our beloved Fellowship. Dinner and dessert will be provided. The event starts at 5:30 PM.

### Greetings & Appreciation from Joan Rose, UUFC Treasurer

It is our pledging season at the UUFC. Thanks to all of you whose pledges last spring have supported our work this year. Your contributions have enabled growth, collaboration in the community, education and spiritual renewal, and much more. Thank you so much for your generosity! If you haven't yet fulfilled your 2017-18 pledge, I encourage you to do so. And, if you're new to the Fellowship and haven't been through a pledge cycle yet, no need to wait, there are people who can happily orient you. Please ask! Finally, if you've been wanting to learn more about how to make the Fellowship part of your estate planning, I'd be happy to help you understand how to make that happen. Please let me know if I can be of service in any of these activities.

## Other Services



### "Kiss the Joy As It Flies"

Rev. Jill McAllister

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We can get so overwhelmed and tired, so sad and angry and fearful, that it's easy to miss the presence of joy in our lives. Can faithful living help?

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### "On The Rising Tide"

Rev. Jill McAllister

Let's look together at how movements for change are lifting us all - from #MeToo, to the Poor People's Campaign, student organizing for gun reform, and Black Lives UU. With other UU congregations, we'll take a special collection today for Black Lives UU, aiming for \$10 per person. Please join us!

### May Events at the UUFC

- 1 Justice Council, 6:00 PM, LIB
- 6 Action Lunch, 12:30 PM, followed by Healing Justice Workshop, 1 PM at the UUFC. All are welcome. Plan to attend both! ~Gun Reform, 2nd meeting, 12:30 PM in Room 9.
- 10 Leadership Supper, 6 PM, Social All leaders of the Fellowship please join us!
- 11 New World Kirtan Band, 7 PM in the Sanctuary
- 12 Men's Monthly Gathering, 9:30 AM, Room 7
- 14 UUFC Board of Trustees, 7 PM
- 16 Brunch for 80+ Year Olds, 10 AM in the Social Hall
- 19 Annual Meeting, 5:30 PM. Join us for a Dinner and Celebration of what we've accomplished!

## Services

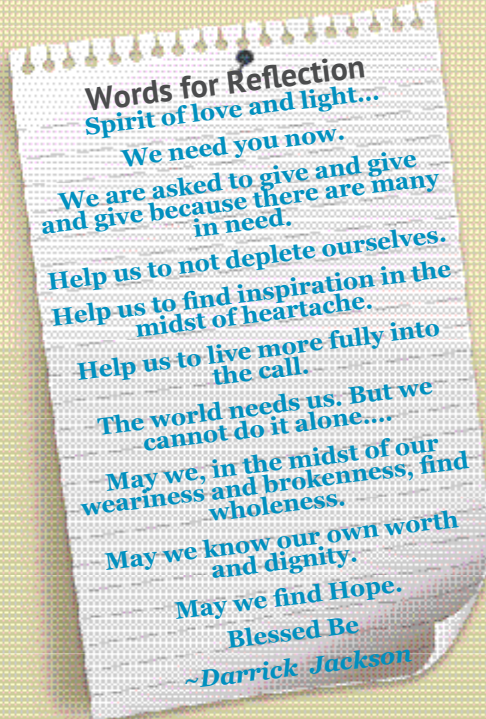
Donations to the Online Services Auction will be accepted through May 16.

Don't miss the Online Services Auction! For over 35 years, UUFC members have enjoyed donating services, events, and items to the auction, which other members can bid on. It is a wonderful way to raise money for the Fellowship, and win fantastic things!

Donations can be made in several ways:

Paper donation forms can be picked up on Sundays in the church lobby or in a folder in the Services Auction box outside the office. Complete the form and put it in the other folder back in that same box.

You can also scan the completed form and send it to [judywestlake@comcast.net](mailto:judywestlake@comcast.net). Please also email a jpg picture of your event, service, or item, if available.





# Other Fellowship News

Forward momentum! A neighborhood meeting, required by the City of Corvallis prior to handing in our land use application, was held on April 16. Although 137 letters of invitation were mailed, attendance was only 5 people, all of whom were happy to have UUFC in proximity, and noted the many benefits of our grounds, parking lots, and special events. This may bode well for our eventual hearing before the Planning Commission.

On April 19 the final Town Hall was held on the subject of our building project. About 24 people attended. After a description of the current status of the project and time to answer questions, the group convened at separate tables to brainstorm the topics of finances, kitchen design, communications systems, interiors, and landscape design. Many good ideas were shared, and the need to raise additional funds to close the funding gap presented a thoughtful closing note.

Next will be the submittal of our land use application to the City of Corvallis, where it will be reviewed and a public hearing scheduled. Watch newsletters and the blog for the hearing date.

## Leadership Supper May 10

All leaders of teams, councils, committee and task forces, and all others who are interested, are invited to the final leadership supper of the year, May 10, 6 PM. Rice, beans and tortillas provided. Please bring toppings and salads to share.

## UUFC Delegates for GA in Kansas City are Needed

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend but UUFC must certify to send voting delegates (who must be UUFC members) so please let Jill or Jamie know if you plan to attend.

Register by April 30 for lower rates: <https://www.uua.org/ga>.

## Save the Date (Ordinations)

~ **Ordination of Elizabeth Sollie, at UUFC.** On Sunday, July 1, we'll ordain Elizabeth to the UU Ministry, as part of the Sunday service. It will also be her last day with us as intern minister. Please plan to join us for the service and the celebration to follow.

~**Monica Jacobson-Tennessee's ordination to the UU ministry** by the UUFC and the UU Congregation of Salem on Saturday, May 26, 2 PM at the UU Congregation of Salem. You are invited! Childcare will be available. Please RSVP using this link: <http://bit.ly/MonicasOrdination>. Monica (one of several ministerial students associated with the UUFC) has been invited to be the candidate for the position of next settled minister at First Parish Church of Kingston, Massachusetts. She'll be in Kingston, MA for a Candidating Week from April 29-May 6, ending with a vote of that congregation to call her as minister.



"You Can't Fix Stupid, but You Can Distract It"

Elizabeth Sollie, Intern Minister

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Is it time to step out of the story we are living in and inhabit a new one? We'll look at some stories about how people decided to change the premise and how we can too.

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"The Measure of Our Words and Deeds"

Rev. Jill McAllister

On this Memorial Day Weekend, once again we remember and honor those who have died this year. We remember that living means dying, and learning to carry our losses, and helping each other with the inevitability of loss.

## Auction

You may also fill out a donation form online, at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSePSQcKpmor-ITmbOrL0tnSMbo\\_54PbDTBcdsrdGWVORRa1mD/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSePSQcKpmor-ITmbOrL0tnSMbo_54PbDTBcdsrdGWVORRa1mD/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**The deadline for submitting donations is May 16.**

Bidding Starts Saturday, May 19, the day of the Annual Meeting, at the online site <https://www.32auctions.com/UUFC>.

Bidding ends the following Sunday morning, May 27.

## Social Concerns

### Action Lunch and Bake Sales in May will benefit the ACLU

During the month of May our Fellowship will raise funds and awareness for the work of the American Civil Liberties Union, a nonprofit organization that defends and preserves the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to every person in this country by the Constitution and laws of the USA. <https://www.aclu.org/>

The ACLU works tirelessly in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend and preserve the constitutions promise of liberty for everyone in our country. This mission extends to unaccompanied minor refugees. The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), the federal agency responsible for

unaccompanied immigrant minors, has implemented a blanket policy prohibiting abortion, in all circumstances except if the person's life is in danger. Last month, the ACLU learned through court papers that the head of ORR, Scott Lloyd, who has a history of anti-abortion activism before being appointed to the position, refused to allow Jane Poe (not her real name) to receive an abortion even though he knew her pregnancy was the result of rape in her home country. He has sent memos to his staff telling them to refuse help to any of the female refugees seeking help for an abortion, essentially holding them hostage. ACLU productive rights lawyers were notified by an anonymous call and were able to help.

The ACLU needs our donations now more than ever. You can help by attending the Action Lunch on **3** May 6th, and by donating to the bake sales and Sunday collections.

## RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

### Children's Chalice Theatre Summer Camp

RE Associate Rachel Kohler will lead children in a variety of theatre-related activities and games, focusing on collective storytelling and teamwork. Children will learn the basics of blocking and respectful rehearsal etiquette while working together to act out stories taken from our living traditions of wisdom that reinforce UU principles. The week will culminate on Friday with a performance for parents, relatives, and friends, and children will get to take home the puppets and/or costume elements they've constructed over the course of the week.

Camp sessions will take place Monday through Friday of the week of June 18th in the mornings from 9 AM - 12 PM. A snack will be provided. Cost to offset materials and snacks will be \$100 for UUFC members and \$150 for non-members. Scholarships are available for families on SNAP, TANF, or WIC.

Questions may be directed to [reassociate@uucorvallis.org](mailto:reassociate@uucorvallis.org).

# Connections Council

## Honoring Our Elders! The 80-and-Older Brunch

All 80+ year-olds, and partners, please join us for a brunch in the Fellowship in Social Hall on Wednesday, May 16, from 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM to celebrate life, friends, birthdays, and more. Transportation: Can you provide a ride? Do you need a ride? Let us know! RSVP to Carolyn Madsen ([carolynzac@comcast.net](mailto:carolynzac@comcast.net)) or Diana Vezmar-Bailey (541-740-9006).

**CONNECT UP** offers opportunities for us to gather in a variety of interest-based small groups to better get to know one another. SIGN UP on Sunday, May 27, to participate in or to host an activity in June! In April, our Connect Up opportunities included a movie & discussion, sing along potluck, wine tasting, potluck social for returned Peace Corps volunteers, crafting & connecting, bird watching, lunch at a restaurant, book club, and a poetry discussion. What are your interests? Questions: contact Wendy Sutton [connect@uucorvallis.org](mailto:connect@uucorvallis.org). For current events, visit Connect Up on the UUFC website: [http://uucorvallis.org/?page\\_id=3776](http://uucorvallis.org/?page_id=3776)

## Other Services



### New World Kirtan Band

7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

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### Ordination of Monica Jacobson Tennesen to the UU Ministry

2:00 PM at the UU Congregation of Salem. Childcare will be available. Please RSVP using this link: <http://bit.ly/MonicasOrdination>.

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## Art Exhibitions

The next exhibition in the UU Art Gallery is by Corvallis local artist Alisha B. Whitman titled "My Favorite Inspirations". Here are excerpts of her show. "I put together this show based on the things that inspire me most. Kind of like the song, "My Favorite Things" from *The Sound of Music*, but instead of choosing things that make me want to sing and dance, I focused on those things that always make me want to grab my brush and start painting! Flowers from my Master Gardener mother-in-law's garden..... trees...There's so much wonderful diversity amongst trees...the sky. Is there anything more wonderful than a sky so blue you can get lost in it's warmth? Or glowing clouds hiding the sun? Or majestic storm clouds tumbling in? Or the billowing, puffy white clouds afterwards? Not to mention a beautiful sunset or sunrise! I try to paint it so often...as a reminder to not hang our heads or be discouraged but to look up, to look to the light and be glad."

Let your inspirations start focusing on "water," the theme for the next show. Open to UUFC artists of all mediums (that can be hung). Deadline to submit art to be juried for this exhibit is July 15. Submit up to 3 electronic images. Include: Title, approximate dimensions of each piece when matted and framed (ready to be hung), price or, if NFS - not for sale- insurance value and phone number. Send images and all the required information to: [niyabeth@gmail.com](mailto:niyabeth@gmail.com).

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