



The Searchlight

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, Missouri

2615 Shepard Blvd., Columbia, MO 65201 • 573-442-5764 • www.uuchurch.net • Volume 54, Issue 1, September 2014

Worship Services
September 2014
Services begin at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 7
“Take Heart”

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon

The word courage comes from the Latin word for “heart,” and it takes courage to expose our breakable hearts to the world. Join us as we consider how we can take heart and live courageously.

Sunday, Sept. 14
“We’ve Got Guts”

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon

How do we find the guts to take risks? Often our willingness to step outside our comfort zones has to do with our deepest commitments. Have we got the guts to make the world a better place?

Sunday, Sept. 21
“Festival of Sharing”

Festival of Sharing Team

Join our Festival of Sharing team to consider the importance of service to others and learn how you can get involved.

Sunday, Sept. 28
“Superhero Sunday”

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon
and DRE Lisa Fritsche

In this lively intergenerational service, we will celebrate instances of courage large and small as an expression of our UU faith. Every act of love is heroic! UUs of all ages are invited to come to church this Sunday dressed as a superhero!

Our September Worship Theme: *Courage*

*People are made of flesh and blood
and a miracle fiber called courage.*
– Mignon McLaughlin

The courage to stand up for what is right, even when it puts us at risk... The courage to love openly, even when life can be so fragile... The courage to live authentically, no matter the cost... The courage to get out of bed each morning and live another day in this beautiful and broken world... There are many kinds of courage.

Indeed, it seems that courage is at the core, *coeur*, heart of everything we do. It is not some extra bonus for those we perceive to be especially brave, but rather the miraculous fiber that runs through our very lives – the courage to live them, no matter how hard the struggles, no matter how high the stakes. We *are* courageous – let us join this month to celebrate and enlarge the bravery that runs through our lives.

See you in church!
Rev. Molly



Highlights of What's Inside

Worship Theme Materials	2
Chalice Circles.....	3
Forum Schedule.....	3
President’s Perspective	4
Strategic Planning – What’s Next?.....	5
Festival of Sharing.....	5
Programs and Events	6
<i>REflections</i>	7
Harvest Supper.....	9
CROP Run and Walk.....	9

September Worship Theme: *Courage*

Wise Words

“Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear.”

– Ambrose Redmoon

“Courage is a kind of salvation.”

– Plato

“Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point.”

– C.S. Lewis

“Sometimes even to live is an act of courage.”

– Lucius Annaeus Seneca

“Courage doesn’t always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I’ll try again tomorrow.”

– Mary Anne Radmacher

Want to reflect further? Check out these resources...

Profiles in Courage by John F. Kennedy

The Courage to Be by Paul Tillich

The Courage to Create by Rollo May

Moral Courage by Rushworth M. Kidder

A Few Good Books for Kids...

Courage by Bernard Waber

Brave Charlotte by Anu Stohner

The Dark by Lemony Snicket

Stuart’s Cape by Sara Pennypacker

The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles

Our Presence on the Web

Go to

<http://uuchurch.net>

for complete information on church activities and our online calendar of events.

YRUU

YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) is our youth ministry program for high school youth. Jamila Batchelder (256-8688) is the adult adviser for the group. Meetings are generally from noon to 2 p.m. Sundays in the lower level.

Church Directory

The current church directory is online on our website and is kept up to date thanks to Steve Scott, our webmaster. If you have a change in your street address, email address or phone numbers, please let us know!

For those members and friends who prefer to have a paper copy of the church directory, a spreadsheet containing directory information can be sent to you as an email attachment or can be printed and mailed to your home. Let me know if this is something that you want!

I’m looking forward to our next year together.

– Kathie Bergman, Church Administrator

Need a Ride? Do you need a ride to church on Sunday, or a church function at another time? Margaret Tyler is coordinating rides as part of the Caring Ministry. Please call the church office at 442-5764.

Our Mission

In the spirit of courageous love, we forge a community of radical welcome and deep connection that moves us together to heal the world.



Chalice Circles will resume in September

The Chalice Circle organizing team is pleased to announce that it is time to register for Chalice Circles again! There are five new facilitators on board who will be trained on Sept. 2. Be listening for testimonials about Chalice Circle experiences at the worship services on Sept. 7 and 14.

Beginning Aug. 24, there will be someone in the greeting area after services to help you register. You may also register by going directly to https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1v8IFlw2_BjbRAvRerW_IaFjP_ChLBRGkYD10fms-wBk/viewform. You will be asked to answer questions about availability and needs in order to match everyone up into groups that will hopefully work for everyone.

The deadline to register is Sept. 10, groups will be announced on Sept. 14, and Chalice Circles will be able to meet by the end of September or early October at the latest.

If you haven't yet participated in a Chalice Circle, please do consider it. It has been a deeply meaningful, enriching and satisfying experience to those who participated last year.

Please contact any one of us on the Chalice Circle organizing team to learn more and to answer any questions you may have:

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon

Stephanie Dorman – adelesmom@bestfx.net

Allie Gassmann – alliegassmann@socket.net

Christy Hutton – christyhutton@yahoo.com

Forum Schedule for September 2014

9 a.m. Sundays

The UU Forum, an adult discussion group open to the public, meets on Sundays from 9 to 10 a.m. Conversation and light refreshments are offered along with the discussion. Childcare is offered at no charge in our nursery. If you have ideas for a program or would like to make a presentation at Forum, contact the coordinator, Bill Clark, at 573-474-4510.

Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014

“Good News for Aging Brains and Bodies”

A Powerpoint/lecture by Tom Davis, Ph.D., a psychologist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., will be presented by psychologists Wayne and Carla Anderson. Davis focuses on recent research that will help you reach the goal “to die young...as late as possible.” Among the factors discussed will be cultivating a positive mind-set, learning about the cognitive benefits of exercising, choosing mentally stimulating activities, finding de-stress strategies, fighting free radicals by eating food loaded with antioxidants (including dark chocolate), enjoying the benefits of sex, and noting some advantages of senior disobedience and humor.

Sunday, Sept.14, 2014

“Franklin D.”

What effect did polio have on Franklin D. Roosevelt? How did he hide his handicap from the public? What modifications did he need to make on houses he lived in? What effect did his experiences have on how the handicapped are treated today? Wayne Anderson will cover these topics and more about the life of our only president elected for four terms.

Sunday, Sept. 21, 2014

“Medicine In Our Future”

Psychologists Wayne and Carla Anderson will discuss the breakthroughs in medicine being made at the Mayo Clinic that may be available generally within the next ten years. Learn how proton beams will change cancer treatment by delivering less radiation, how our DNA is being decoded to better personalize treatment, how stem cell research will provide new organs and how old-fashioned treatments like acupuncture have been added to modern treatment methods.

Sunday, Sept.28, 2014

“Male-Biased Sex Ratios in South Asia”

Mary K. Shenk, Ph.D. MU Department of Anthropology, will be the presenter. She will discuss South Asia and East Asia as a whole, then use a case study of rural Bangladesh, where sex ratios were male-biased a generation ago but are currently unbiased, to explore the reasons for the patterns in the region and what the future might hold.

President's Perspective

Strategic Planning: Honing our Energies to Fulfill our Mission

By Mary Denson, 2014-15 President

Hello UUCC!

This year as president of UUCC one of my top priorities for the board is to have a strategic plan written by May to present at our annual congregational meeting (see the article on the next page for more details on the process). The basic question we must seek to answer throughout our congregation-wide planning process is, "In what new and different ways will we, the UUCC, touch lives and live out our mission in the coming three to five years?" Under our church's governance model, it is the board's responsibility to write broad strategic policies to help direct the minister on where to focus her energies in accordance with our mission.

In order for us to best use the entire congregation's energy to maximize our effectiveness, we have to have a conversation about the ways we individually feel called to act. We must envision ourselves as being a part of the collective in order to make our mission come to life. Part of that is deciding how best to use our collective energies through different ministries. In order to have a meaningful impact on those within our beloved community, we must each be prophets of our own piece of the story. In other words, once we have talked and decided on a course of action, we have to commit to it.

That's why this strategic planning process is so important. We need to know what you want to do and what ideas you have. Even the wildest ideas are welcome; because it's those wild ideas that may best transform our community. So think about what sort of story you want your life to be, and share it with us so that the story we write together can be one you're proud to be a part of here at UUCC.

– Truly yours, Mary Denson

Leadership Opportunities

The Nominating Committee is beginning its work for the program year and is asking members to consider serving on the Board of Trustees and/or as delegates to the next UUA MidAmerica Region Assembly or the next UUA General Assembly.

New board members will be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting next spring.

The MidAmerica Region Assembly will take place April 17-19, 2015 in Naperville, Ill. The UUA General Assembly is scheduled June 24-28, 2015 in Portland, Ore. The same members would not need to be delegates to both assemblies.

The Nominating Committee also is seeking several members to serve on the committee.

If you are interested in serving in one or more of these capacities, please give me a call at 442-1865 or send me an email at sscott@scottlawfirm.com.

– Steve Scott, 2014-14 Chair
UUCC Nominating Committee

Honduras Trip 2014 News

Seventeen members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia traveled to the Cangrejal River Valley near La Ceiba in Honduras this June. There they were joined by a Honduran family of four to make the group 21 people strong.

The members of the group had deeply meaningful experiences in Honduras. They come back knowing that there is still much to be done, and they have lots of great ideas on how to move forward. You will be hearing about some of these ideas this church year.

To learn more about the trip, check it out at http://uuchurch.net/photos-honduras_2014.htm.

To learn more or to get involved (the next trip to Honduras will be in two or three years), contact Allie Gassmann, alliegassmann@socket.net. And please come to the Honduras Group's lay-led worship service on Oct. 19!

– Allie Gassmann – Social Action Team

Strategic planning – what’s next?

Our Mission Statement: In the spirit of courageous love, we forge a community of radical welcome and deep connection that moves us together to heal the world.

As UUCC continues to more clearly define itself, how do we go about “living our mission”?

Our “what’s next” phase is to develop a long-range strategic plan. Strategic planning is an organization’s process of defining its strategy, or direction, and making decisions on allocating its resources to pursue this strategy.

By undertaking this strategic planning process at UUCC, we are attempting to understand how our congregation sees the future of our church. Where are our interests and energy?

We intend to meet with as many of the members of the church as we can in small cottage meetings and encourage one another to share a vision of our future. When these meetings are completed, a detailed strategic plan will be compiled setting priorities for the next five, 10 and 20 years.

Our starting point is our mission and vision statements that we have recently compiled, and with these in mind we are going to ask the following questions:

1. What do you think is going well at UUCC? What is good about that? How can we deepen and expand these activities/interests?

2. What would UUCC look like and feel like to you in five years if we are living fully into our mission and vision? What would make you feel good about the church? “I want to belong to a church that”

Strategic Planning Team

Mary Denson, President

Qhyrrae Michaelieu

Peter Holmes

Maria Oropallo

Rev. Molly, *ex officio*

If you are interested in joining us, please let us know.

In the short term, we are be looking for volunteers to host cottage meetings, facilitate the meetings, and record the discussion. Once the meetings are completed we will be looking for volunteers to analyze the data, and write the strategic plan draft.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING (F of S) Important Dates

September 21, 10:30 a.m.

Worship Service:

“The True Nature of Giving”.

For our lay service, we are hoping to have Colin Powell, retired four-star general; Jennifer Wiseman, top leader on science policy; Jane Goodall, primatologist; and Rev. Mel West, Ret., founder of the Festival of Sharing.

October 1

Last day for all kits and packs to be left at church.

October 4-14

Help needed to audit kits for required items, remove extras, determine if we can fill incomplete units and label boxes for each kit or pack type. Contact Marian Hjelmfelt if you would like to help and share in good feelings about our caring congregation and the joy and benefits the recipients will experience.

October 17

Ingathering at Sedalia State Fair Arena and Grounds. Everyone is welcome to come experi-

ence the interfaith activities and collaborative spirit that has energized our UUs who have attended in the past.

In addition to the Interfaith Worship Service, there are representatives from some of the service agencies, table displays from different groups, craft sales from developing countries and creative locals, a food court, and a quilt auction.

Carpooling will be available.

– Marian Hjelmfelt, Team Leader

Programs and Events

UU Dining Group Kickoff on Sept. 12

There is still time to join the UU Dining Group's kickoff dinner! The dinner and meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 12, 2014 at the church for members and friends who are interested in joining the program as well as current members. Annual Dining Group dues are \$15 per couple and \$7.50 per person for both regular members and substitutes.

The meal will be provided at the Kickoff Dinner Party, and your presence is all that is required. New members are especially welcomed! Please RSVP to Linda Lou Brown at 573-447-3939 if you will be attending so we can prepare an adequate amount of food.

For more information about the UU Dining Group, see <http://uuchurch.net/dinner.htm> or call the church office at 573-442-5764.

Book Table and Used Book Cart

HELP!!! Bibliophiles and Biblioholics are needed to be part of the Book Table Team. The Book Table in the Greeting Area is open the second, third and fourth Sundays of each month before and after the worship service. Team members set and close up the cabinet, talk about the books there and do some selling. Please contact Fran Reynolds at 443-4336 or freynolds@centurytel.net if you would like to do this.

Sam Anand managed the Used Book Cart for many years. Since Sam and Susie moved away, someone is needed to take care of the cart. UUs bring good used books to put on the cart, and UUs buy the books for a nominal price (cheaper than garage sales!). Please let Fran know if you could do this.

Fair Trade Sale – Sept. 14

Fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate will be available for purchase in the Greeting Area before and after worship (until 11:45 a.m. or noon) every second Sunday from September through May.

First Sunday potluck – Sept. 7

On the first Sunday of each month from September through June, we gather for our "First Sunday Potluck" immediately following the worship service. Please bring a dish to share so that we'll have enough for our guests!

"ADOPT A KIT"

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

Deadline for retuning kits is Oct. 1, 2014

2 WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

Provide everything for one or more kits, or add the items that are missing from some partially completed kit(s).

1. If you want to provide everything for a kit, pick up a shopping list at the **FofS Display table**, or go to <http://www.UMOCM.com/festival>, or contact Marian Hjelmfelt.

2. If you choose to adopt an incomplete kit, go to the **FofS Display Table**. Each kit will have a list of items still needed. Sign out a kit on the clipboard and sign it back in when the kit is complete.

QUESTIONS??

Contact Marian Hjelmfelt at

hjelmfeltm@yahoo.com or 473-449-5118

UU Book Discussion Group – Sept. 12

The UU Book Discussion Group will meet at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12 at Osaka Restaurant, 120 E. Nifong Blvd. Bring a book you have read to discuss briefly.

Call Pam Springsteel at 445-0642 if you have questions.

UU Life Writers begins Sept. 20

We write stories. We write stories of our lives and about those who have been with us on our life path.

One doesn't have to be a professional writer – just someone who enjoys writing life stories. It is not a critical group. Bring pen/pencil and paper and be ready to write. Be prepared to laugh and cry, share and give feedback.

Our theme for this fall is "Seasons of Our Lives."

We begin again on Sept. 20 at 10:30 a.m. in the Centering Room. Then we meet:

Oct. 11 and 25

Nov. 1 and 15

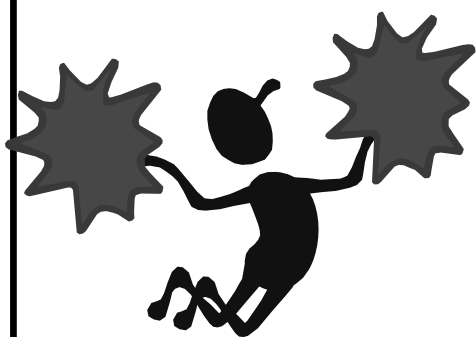
Dec. 6

Reflections

It's Time for You to Come on Back to Sunday School!

We hope that your summer has been a good one, and that you are excited to discover all of the exciting things planned for this church year. On Aug. 30, we will all be downstairs, starting our Sunday School year. Please join us!

Fun Planned for Middle School Kids



It's time for the start of our Jr. Youth Group year! If you are in 6th, 7th or 8th grade, this is the club for you. You can look forward to social activities, service projects, pizza parties, etc., etc., etc. Get-togethers with other UU churches will also be planned. Our first meeting will be at the church on Friday, Sept. 5 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. There we will plan activities for the upcoming year. Watch your mailbox for a special invitation, and be sure to bring your good ideas!

September 2014
Lisa Fritsche,
Director of Religious Education
dre@uuchurch.net
573-442-5764
Office Hours: Sun. 8-12
and by appointment

Important Dates:

Sept. 5 - Jr. Youth Group meeting (6:30-8:00)

Sept. 7 - Service Sunday

Sept. 14 - YUUTS parents mtg.

Sept. 21 - 3rd Sunday Lunch

Can YOU Help on Service Sundays?

Our program still needs two sets of helping hands on six Sundays this year. You can help us fill school supply bags, tie blankets and craft cat toys, among other things. Our dates are 9/7, 10/5, 11/2 12/7, 2/1 & 3/1. This volunteer position is really FUN! Come join the team!

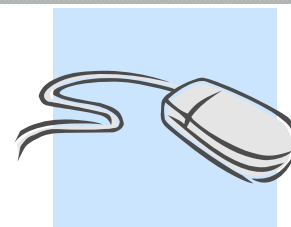


Time to Register Those Kids...On-line!

It is time to update our records! If you've never registered your kids, or if there are any allergy changes, please go to the church website and completing a form for your children. Thanks for your help with this important project. (<http://www.uuchurch.net/>)

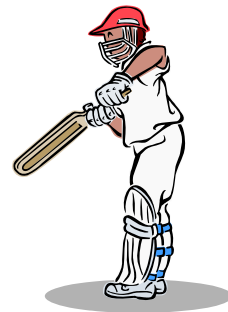
...And Check Out Our Website

Click on "Religious Education" on the church website main menu at <http://uuchurch.net> to find out what's going on downstairs at church. Check often, as changes are promised!



It's Cricket at Third Sunday Lunch

After church on Sept. 21, the Third Sunday Lunch families will gather at the picnic tables for a light meal. Then, with the help of Ian Thomas, we will learn about and play a bit of Cricket! Kids of all ages, won't you join us?



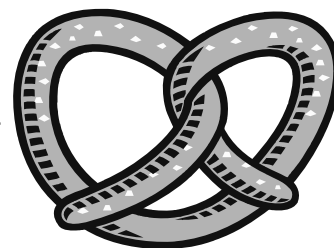
September's Theme...**COURAGE**



Courage shows itself in different ways every day. Can you think of a time that you were courageous? Reverend Molly will talk about courage in this month's services, and downstairs in Centering we will do the same.

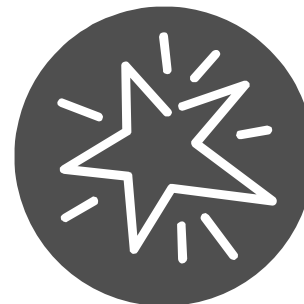
Hungry, Hungry!

Can you provide some healthy snacks to our Sunday school kids this year? We can always use pretzels, crackers, Nilla wafers, etc. Cut up fresh fruit or veggies are popular as well – just let Lisa F. know in advance that you'll be bringing them in. We will also be needing unhealthy snacks for our YUUTS class (age has its privileges). Lisa can sign you up for a Sunday to bring brownies, sweet rolls, cookies, etc.



Wanna Play?

Do you (or your child) play a musical instrument? Are you (or your child) willing to share your talents with the congregation? If so, please contact Desi Long, our Music Director. We are all anxious to hear you play!



Don't Forget!

The more often your child comes to church, the more friends s/he will make, and the more excited s/he will be to come the next week!





Local Harvest Supper **Saturday, Sept. 27, 2014**

Celebrating abundance ♦ Connecting with nature
Building community ♦ Expressing gratitude

Purchase tickets by Sept. 21
\$6/ticket, children under age 12 free
Childcare provided in the nursery

The local Harvest Supper will take place this year on Saturday, Sept. 27 beginning at 6 p.m. The dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., with dessert and musical entertainment to follow. Sam Otten is the entertainment chairperson, and he would love to hear from you if you are interested in entertaining our diners! [ottensam@att.net]

As in years past, we do need everyone to purchase tickets ahead of time so that we know how much food to buy and cook. Ticket prices are minimal to cover the cost of local food purchases – nothing more. There will also be a cash bar featuring local products. A ticket sales table will be set up in the greeting area after the Worship Service each Sunday in September. If you are not able to get to the church to buy a ticket, or if you have a financial hardship and need assistance with the purchase of tickets, please email Chelsea Otten [chelsea.otten@gmail.com]

We will need lots of volunteer help on Saturday before and after the supper. If you will be attending the supper, please sign up to cover at least one shift to help with food preparation, cooking, set-up, or clean-up. A sign-up sheet will be at the ticket sales table, or you may contact Chelsea Otten [chelsea.otten@gmail.com]. Your assistance will be much appreciated by the supper organizers, and you will have a lot of fun!

2014 CROP Run and Walk – Sept. 20 and 21

The 2014 CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Hunger) Run and Walk will be held this year on Sept. 20 and 21.

Come join lots of people from other Columbia faith communities to walk and run to alleviate hunger here in Columbia, the U.S. and around the world.

The 5K Run will be held on Sept. 20, starting at the Twin Lakes Recreational Area. Registration will open at 7 a.m., and the run will start at 8 a.m. New this year will be a Faith Communities Fitness Challenge to see which faith community is Columbia's fittest. A traveling trophy will be awarded to the faith community that garners the most points.

The Walk will take place on Sept. 21, starting at Missouri United Methodist Church downtown. Registra-

tion will open at 1 p.m., and the walk will start at 2 p.m. You may choose between the 0.8-mile family walk route and the 2.2-mile challenge walk route.

For more information and to participate in the run and/or walk, please see Allie Gassmann in the greeting area on Sundays, or send her an email message at alliegassmann@socket.net. To find out more about CWS and the great work they do, go to <http://www.cwsglobal.org>.

To participate in fundraising electronically, please go to <http://columbiacrophungerwalk.webs.com/> or go to the direct link at http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/site/TR?fr_id=19096&pg=entry.

– Allie Gassmann – Social Action Team

THE SEARCHLIGHT

The Newsletter of:
Unitarian Universalist Church
2615 Shepard Blvd.
Columbia, MO 65201-6132

NON-PROFIT
ORG
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 81
Columbia, MO

Return Service Requested

Our Staff

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister

Office Hours: Mondays-Wednesdays 1-4 p.m.

Email: minister@uuchurch.net

Lisa Fritsche, Director of Youth Religious Education

Email: DRE@uuchurch.net

Desiree Long, Music Director

Email: music@uuchurch.net

Kathie Bergman, Administrator

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Telephone: 573-442-5764

Email: uuchurch@uuchurch.net

Visit our Website: <http://uuchurch.net>



2014-2015 Board of Trustees

Mary Denson, President

Jeremy Milarsky, President-Elect

Gregg Suhler, Treasurer

Steve Scott, Secretary

Maria Oropallo

Ene Chippendale

Jan Swaney

George Bunyea, Jr.

Pack Matthews

The Searchlight is published monthly by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, Missouri from September through June.

Submissions:
Email to uuchurch@uuchurch.net,
or mail to Church Administrator.

The deadline for submissions is noon on the third Monday of each month for the following edition.