



The Searchlight

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, Missouri

2615 Shepard Blvd., Columbia, MO 65201 • 573-442-5764 • <https://uuchurch.net> • Volume 57, Issue 11, May 2018

May Worship

Sunday, May 6 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Jack Gaede, Guest Preacher

Jack Gaede is a ministerial candidate with a master of divinity from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. He is currently serving as the ministerial intern at All Souls UU in Kansas City, Mo.

Sunday, May 13 – 9 and 11 a.m.

“Flower Communion”

DRE Jamila Batchelder and

Melissa McConnell

Join us for this beloved and beautiful annual tradition rooted in Unitarian Universalist history. Bring a flower for the common bouquet, and you’ll go home with a different flower and a good helping of beauty.

Sunday, May 20 – 9 and 11 a.m.

**“Removing the Sheen
of the Golden Rule”**

Sam Otten

Many Christians and non-Christians alike find a sense of direction in the “golden rule” – do unto others as you would have them do unto you. In this service, we will take a closer look at the golden rule and some of its problematic features. We will also explore how subtle differences in phrasing can lead to important distinctions in how the rule affects us.

Sunday, May 27 – 10:30 a.m. only

“Remembering”

Rev. Julie Taylor, Guest Preacher

Memorial Day (originally Decoration Day) was created to honor and remember those who have died in service to our country. This Memorial Day weekend, Rev. Julie Taylor will help us remember sacrifices for our nation from a UU perspective. Rev. Taylor is a UU community minister specializing in critical incident response, trauma, and disaster spiritual care. She serves as a chaplain with the New York Air National Guard (Captain) and as an adjunct professor at the Starr King School of Ministry, Meadville Lombard Theological School and Eden Theological Seminary.

Annual Meeting May 6

The Board of Trustees has scheduled the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, May 6 after the 11 a.m. worship service. At the meeting members will vote on the following items:

- Approval of the proposed 2018-19 operating budget
- Election of Board of Trustees members
- Approval of a revision to the Investments and Endowment Policy

Other business will include a report on the status of the Building Needs Task Force and presentation of annual reports.

The three candidates for three-year seats on the Board of Trustees are Mark Johnson, Elaine Martin and Mindy McPherson. Other candidates may be nominated from the floor at the meeting.

Members who joined before March 6 this year will be eligible to vote at the meeting in person or by proxy. The quorum for the meeting will be 49 members present in person or by proxy.

Information about the agenda items and a proxy voting form will be available at <https://uuchurch.net/annual-meeting/>.

Greetings from the Worship Associates Team

Like many, we’re looking forward to May and the promise of fairer weather. Celebration is the theme for the month – fitting for a month that is traditionally full of celebrations of mothers, graduations, longer and warmer days, and much else.

At UUC, we celebrate the guest ministers who grace our pulpit while Rev. Molly is on parental leave. We celebrate the lay leaders in the congregation who keep our church going both on Sunday and through the week. Of course, we also celebrate the new lives of Margot Housh Gordon and Hailey Mann.

We look forward to seeing you this month as we hold our flower communion, take a new look at the Golden Rule, and host two guest preachers. Note that we will start our summer schedule of one worship service at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 27 (Memorial Day weekend).

If you have any comments or questions regarding our worship services, send our team an email at worship@uuchurch.net.

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Religious education – it's not just for kids anymore!

Your Adult Religious Education Team will launch a new program this fall.

There will be two classes offered, with the following themes:

- Spirituality/UU identity
- Current events/social justice

The classes will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday evenings, beginning September 4 for eight to 10 weeks. Free childcare will be provided.

We hope to begin each session with a potluck dinner for all participants.

As details develop, we will let the congregation know, but be sure to mark your calendar!

Update from your Sanctuary Team

It has been more than one year since our congregation took a momentous vote on April 9, 2017 to become a Sanctuary Church.

At that time there were about 800 Sanctuary Churches in the United States. Sadly, the number of those needing sanctuary has grown also.

We are preparing to offer hospitality to those who find themselves in need. Take a look at the progress toward a bathroom with a shower in the upper level of the church. Better yet, volunteer to help Larry Lile finish it.



Forum – May 2018

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. Forum coordinator: Bill Clark, 573-474-4510.

May 6: Dr. Robert Blake will deliver an update on the cost of prescription drugs.

May 13: George Frissell will return to discuss the meanings of spiritual and spirituality.

May 20: David Schenker will present on Greek history to the 21st Century.

May 27: The holiday weekend program will be Bill Clark's description of a journey from ancient hieroglyphics to the 21st century.

Welcoming Team Announces:

For Our Newcomers: 'Getting to Know UU' – May 6

(for all those who want to know more about us)

On the first Sunday of each month in the minister's office after the 11 a.m. worship service for about 30 minutes.

Child care provided.

New Member Ingathering – May 20

During the 11 a.m. service on May 20, we will be welcoming new members into our community. If you have taken the membership classes or spoken with the Welcoming Team about joining the Church and feel ready to take that step, you are welcome to join us in this rite of passage. If you are unable to attend this service or have further questions, please call 442-5764 or send an email to the Church Administrator at uuchurch@uuchurch.net.

After the 11 a.m. worship service on May 20, a potluck luncheon is planned to welcome our new members. Everyone is invited! This is a family friendly event.

President's Perspective

Mark your calendar for annual meeting and G.A.

by Todd Iveson, 2017-18 President

We have two major events in the life of our church in May and June. On Sunday, **May 6**, we will have our annual congregational meeting. The two standard and very important responsibilities we have at all these meetings are to elect new board members and approve our annual operating budget for the 2018-2019 church year. Also on the agenda are a proposal to amend the bylaws to add a statement of purpose to the endowment fund provisions and a report from our facilities needs team. It is important for voting members to attend because we must have a quorum to conduct business at the meeting.

The Nominating Committee has presented a slate of three qualified candidates to fill the three open slots. Mark Johnson, who is completing his first three-year term, has agreed to serve another three years if elected (the bylaws limit board members to two consecutive three-year terms). Mindy McPherson, who is currently filling the last six months of the term of a board

member who resigned, has agreed to run for a full term. Elaine Martin, a long-time member who has served in numerous volunteer capacities for our congregation, has also agreed to run.

The Nominating Committee makes recommendations for all vacant board positions. But this does not mean these are the only people who can run. We welcome additional nominations from the floor at the meeting.

The big event in June is the annual Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly **June 20-24**. This year is special because it is in Kansas City, meaning it is much more affordable for our members to attend all or a portion of the meeting. I have never been before, but I'm going this year! I have heard from prior attendees that it is a great experience of powerful worship, great workshops, and fun. You can find details at <https://www.uua.org/ga>. Hurry! Early registration at a lower cost ends May 1.

Your Leave Team – leaveteam@uuchurch.net

Contact the team for administrative issues during Rev. Molly's parental leave



Jeremy Duke



Allie Gassmann



Jeanne Murphy



Maria Oropallo

*Our presence
on the web*

Go to <https://uuchurch.net>
for information on church activities and our online calendar of events

UUCC 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.*



Green Sanctuary Team news

Down by the Riverside – Worship and Potluck – Sunday, June 3

**Sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Team
At Katfish Katy's on the Missouri River at Huntsdale**

Worship Service – 10 a.m. • Potluck Brunch – 11 a.m.

Come enjoy our annual get-together at Katfish Katy's Campground on the Missouri River – a chance to enjoy the company of our church members and friends in a beautiful spot on the banks of the river.

Linda Lou and Robert Brown no longer own Katfish Katy's, but the new owner has given us permission to use our usual site again this year. However, we will only be there on Sunday, not on Saturday.

There will be a portable toilet and picnic tables, but we will have to bring everything else. Please bring food and drinks for the potluck and folding chairs if you want them (we will have some benches). Also bring your own plates, cups and utensils. We will mainly be under the trees, like last year, but a sunhat might be a good idea.

If you have questions, email Peter Holmes (pfholmes63@gmail.com) or Patty Daus (pajods@gmail.com).

How to Enter Katfish Katy's

There are now locked gates limiting access to Katfish Katy's Campground. Here is how to enter into and exit from the campground on June 3:

When you drive through Huntsdale on Route O and approach the campground, you will see a metal gate directly in front of you that leads to the Station House Restaurant. ***Do not try to go through this gate.***

Instead, follow the road to the left (south) and enter by the next gate that leads to the boat ramp. Someone will be waiting between 9:30 and 10 a.m. at that next gate to let you in with a key card. Plan to arrive no later than 9:45 a.m. – this means leaving Columbia by 9:15 a.m. at the latest.

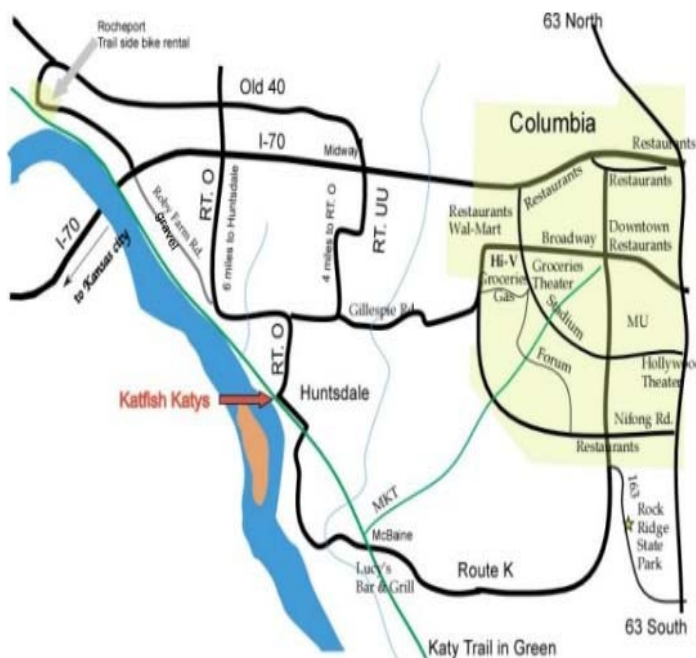
If you arrive later than 10 a.m. and there is no one at the gate, call Patty Daus at 573-529-9691 or Peter Holmes at 573-239-7789.

After going through the gate at the road, drive toward the boat ramp area. You will encounter a second gate that opens automatically for vehicles. After going through this second gate, proceed to the boat ramp area and then follow the road to the right until you reach the point where a road to the left goes over the levee and leads to the picnic/camping area where we will gather.

While the gate at the road requires a key card to enter the campground, it opens automatically for vehicles to exit.

Special Instructions for Cyclists

If you are cycling on the Katy Trail, you will already be inside the gate from the road. You will encounter the gate leading to the boat ramp that opens automatically for vehicles, but it will not open for a bicycle. If no one is there with a key card to open this gate for you, there is a space where you can go around the fence on the left side of the gate.



UU Grounds Workday – Saturday, May 12 9 a.m. to noon (Rain date – May 19)



Come celebrate spring by getting your hands dirty with the UU Grounds Team! Come for an hour or all morning as we beautify the grounds and make new friends!

As you attend worship on Sunday, you may have noticed we have been converting our non-natives plant beds to natives. Native plants provide important food resources for thousands of species of invertebrates that in turn provide food for native birds and other animals. This year we will make a rain garden.

A rain garden is a living eco-friendly sponge. Rain gardens perform the following functions: Filter storm water runoff before it enters local waterways, alleviate problems associated with flooding and drainage, recharge the ground water supply, provide habitat and food for wildlife, including birds and butterflies, and enhance the beauty of yards and the community. [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/why do we need rain gardens](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/why_do_we_need_rain_gardens)

We would love to have you join us for this event and/or to become stewards of the land with us. For more information contact Patty Daus (pajods@gmail.com) or Jeanne Murphy (jmurphy1203@socket.net).

Programs and Events

“The Work That Reconnects”

The WTR program offers ongoing personal and spiritual exploration developed by Buddhist scholar, author and teacher Joanna Macy and facilitated by Caya Tanski-French. Sessions are being held from 7 to 9 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month through May.

The central purpose of the program is to deepen relationships with one another and with the self-healing powers in the web of life, taking us from despair and helping to motivate and empower us to reclaim our lives, our communities, and our planet Earth. Read more on our website or contact Caya by email at cayasadhana@yahoo.com.

Grieving Circle

If you or someone you know would like to meet in a facilitated grieving circle, or you wish to be in a place where you can freely and safely express your grief, please contact Rev. Molly, Maria Oropallo, Barbara Carter or Greg Bergman.

All of our contact information is in the church directory on our website, or you can send us an email at grieving@uuchurch.net.

Hook & Needle Group

Take a break and join our church's Hook & Needle Group. Yarn, patterns and tutoring are available. The group meets at the church on Tuesdays at 2 p.m.

For more information, call Marian Hjelmfelt at 573-449-5118.

Conversations, Etc.

Conversations, Etc. will meet at noon Wednesday, May 9 at the church. Bring a brown bag lunch and a snack to share if you wish.

If you have questions, call Pam Springsteel at 573-445-0642.

UU Book Discussion

UU Book Discussion will meet at 5 p.m. Friday, May 11 at ABC Chinese Cuisine, 3510 I-70 Dr. S.E. Bring a book you have read to discuss briefly.

If you have questions, call Pam Springsteel at 573-445-0642.

Kaleidoscope pagan gathering June 23

Join us as we celebrate the summer Solstice. The longest day and the shortest night are here. The Sun stands in his glory and full strength. Glory with him, this bringer of warmth, light, and hope.

Gather with Kaleidoscope at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 23 at the church. We will join in ritual, followed by a potluck and friendship. All are welcome, no matter what your personal path.

Mindfulness Meditation

Join us for Mindfulness Meditation at 10:05 a.m. Sundays in the Centering Room or at the Fire Circle.

Meditators of all levels of experience are welcome. This is mainly silent meditation with some instruction, if needed, and with brief selected readings from eminent teachers.

For more information, contact Peter Holmes.

UUC provides Loaves and Fishes meal on 3rd Sundays

UUC provides the evening meal at Loaves and Fishes on the third Sunday each month – May 20 this month.

Please sign up on the church website to prepare food for this meal and/or to help set up, serve, and clean up.

Serving meals at Loaves and Fishes is a project of our Social Action Team.

If you have questions, email Diane Suhler at drsuhler@ccis.edu.

UU Life Writers

The UU Life Writers will meet on May 12 and May 19 at 10:30 a.m. in the Centering Room in the lower level of the church.

Our theme this spring is “Passages.” What are the passages in our lives that have made a difference and sent us in a different direction, or was the passage through a hard or traumatic time? The stories in the writing group continue to amaze us all. All are welcome.

For more information, contact Fran Reynolds at 573-443-4336 or Reynoldsf@missouri.edu.

**Faith-to-Action
collections planned**

**May 6 and May 20:
Race Matters, Friends**

Reflections



We have spent this year thinking about some of the challenging work that we must do to build resilient community. But we also need to take the time to celebrate together and fill our spirits with joy in order to sustain ourselves through all the rest that must be done. I think we serious-minded UUs sometimes forget just how critical acts of celebration are as part of our spiritual journey. May is truly the month of celebration, from proms to Mother's Day to graduations, so we have many opportunities to celebrate together. How will your family celebrate together? A few ideas:

- ◆ Come to church on May 13 for one of our most cherished UU celebrations – the Flower Communion.
- ◆ Create your own special celebration for the last day of school. Make it as unique and silly as your family!
- ◆ Invent your own holiday to celebrate. The birth of a favorite person in history complete with birthday cake, a celebration of a favorite country or place with accompanying regional dishes, a celebration of ice cream sundaes. So many possibilities!
- ◆ Attend our 11 a.m. worship service on May 20 when we will celebrate our graduating seniors (see below).
- ◆ Every night is a good night for a family dance party celebration!
– Jamila Batchelder, Director of Religious Education

Graduation Sunday

11 a.m. worship service on May 20

Graduation time is upon us, and we celebrate many of the young UUs we have watched growing up at UUCC as they graduate! We will honor them as part of our 11 a.m. worship service on May 20. Graduating seniors and their families who want to take part in the service should contact Jamila by May 6. Parents are asked to write a letter to their child (using no names) that will be read anonymously to the teens during the worship service. The letter is the parents' celebration of who their child has become and best wishes for the years of transition into adulthood that lie ahead. Please get letters to Jamila by May 13. If you have any questions about writing your letter, Jamila will be happy to answer them.



Jamila Batchelder
Director of Religious Education
dre@uuchurch.net
573-442-5764
Office Hours: Wed. 10 a.m.-noon
and by appointment

R.E. Appreciation Luncheon Noon June 16

All R.E. volunteers are invited to an appreciation luncheon to celebrate our wonderful year together in R.E. and the part you all played in making it happen.



Junior Youth Night 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, May 4

Junior Youth (6-8th grade) will be having their final meeting of the year. They will be celebrating our graduates and having fun before saying goodbye for the summer.

6:30-8:30 p.m. May 12
Pie and Board Games
A monthly event for all ages! Bring your favorite board game, your favorite pie, or both, and join us for a time of fun and fellowship and pie.
Childcare available upon request

May R.E. Schedule

- **May 6:** Regular R.E. classes
- **May 13:** Flower Communion Intergenerational Service
- **May 20:** Last Day of R.E. classes for church year
- **May 27:** Service Sunday – Birthday Bags for Rainbow House

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Unitarian Universalist Church
2615 Shepard Blvd.
Columbia, MO 65201-6132

Return Service Requested

Our Staff

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon, Minister

On Parental Leave March 25-June 17, 2018

Kathie Bergman, Administrator

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

Telephone: 573-442-5764

Email: uuchurch@uuchurch.net

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

Jamila Batchelder, Director of Religious Education

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10 a.m.-noon and by appointment

Email: dre@uuchurch.net

Marques Ruff, Interim Music Director

Rehearsals on Wednesdays 7 p.m.

Email: music@uuchurch.net

April Rodeghero, Sunday Morning Assistant

Email: uuchurch@uuchurch.net

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Unitarian Universalist Church of



Columbia, Missouri

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Email to uuchurch@uuchurch.net
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