

Sunday Programs

March 5

9:30 Adult Religious Education: Kabbalah and the Inner Life of God, part 2 Leader: Rick Spradlin
10:30 Coffee and Conversation

10:45 Program: Dr. Nick Norwood
Title: "An American Malady" : Loneliness as Theme in the Works of Carson McCullers"

Service Leader: Paul Lee
Opener: Rick Spradlin
Closer: John Kamisky
Greeters: Patricia Lassiter and Ann Newland

12:00 **First Sunday Potluck Lunch**
Bring a Friend Day

March 12

Time Change—Spring Forward!

9:30 Adult Religious Education: The Myth of Secularism, part 1 Leader: Rick Spradlin (MH)
10:30 Coffee and Conversation

10:45 Program: Chaplain Neil Richardson
Title: "SafeHouse Ministries—Touching lives"

Service Leader: Bill Edwards
Opener: John Kamisky
Closer: Emily Jones
Greeters: Robert Burnham and Orm Burnham

12:00 *****Short Business Meeting*****

March 19

9:30 Adult Religious Education: The Myth of Secularism, part 2 Leader: Rick Spradlin (MH)
10:30 Coffee and Conversation

10:45 Program: Ron Ussery
Title: "The Passages of Life: "Sheehy and Beyond"

Service Leader: Ron Ussery
Opener: Joyce Hickson
Closer: Marjorie Harlan
Greeters: Ursula King and Patricia Lassiter
GATP: The SafeHouse

March 26

9:30 Adult Religious Education: The Myth of Secularism, part 3 Leader: Rick Spradlin (MH)
10:30 Coffee and Conversation

10:45 Program: Dr. Becky Becker
Title: "Fiddler on the Roof: Lessons in Balance and Empathy with Tevye"

Service Leader: David Smith
Opener: Marjorie Harlan
Closer: Connie Ussery
Greeters: Mark Berger and Robert Burnham

Children's Religious Education Programs can be found on page 3

Thanks to **Connie and Ron Ussery** for coordinating programs this month.

* Program coordinators are needed for July, August, November and December*



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbus

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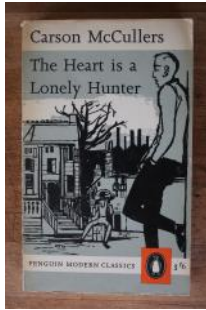


A Welcoming Congregation

March Service Presentations

March 5: ***"An American Malady": Loneliness as Theme in the Works of Carson McCullers***

Dr. Nick Norwood



Dr. Nick Norwood teaches creative writing at Columbus State University and directs the Carson McCullers Center for Writers and Musicians in Columbus, Georgia and Nyack, New York. He is a widely published poet and critic of poetry. His third book of poems, *Gravel and Hawk*, winner of the Hollis Summers Prize, was issued by Ohio University Press in 2012.. His poems have appeared in such places as *The Paris Review*, *The Oxford American*, *Shenandoah*, US Poet Laureate Ted Kooser's *American Life in Poetry*, *The Writer's Almanac with Garrison Keillor*, and elsewhere. His essays on tone and the international style in the poetry of Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney recently appeared in *Estudios Irlandeses*, published at the University of Barcelona.

March 12: ***"SafeHouse Ministries-Touching lives"***

Neil Richardson, Chaplain Chattahoochee Valley Jail

Chaplain Neil Richardson moved to Columbus nine years ago as a car salesman. Now, he heads one of the biggest homeless ministries in the Chattahoochee Valley. SafeHouse provides meals, classes and other support to help the homeless population find housing and work.

March 19: ***"The Passages of Life: Sheehy and Beyond"***

Ron Ussery



Ron has been a member of the UU Fellowship since 2002 and has offered many programs from "Big Questions" to "Liberia: Schools and Dreams" to "The Day the Unions Died in the South." He is currently the Director of Media Services at Brookstone School.

March 26: ***"Fiddler on the Roof: Lessons in Balance and Empathy with Tevye"***

Dr. Becky Becker

Dr. Becky Becker is Professor of Theatre and Interim Executive Director for Columbus State University's Center for International Education where she coordinates the International Studies Certificate. In addition to teaching Theatre History, Dramaturgy, Playwriting and Devising Performance, she teaches Introduction to International Studies and Cross-Cultural Learning at CSU. Her directing credits include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Laramie Project*, *Eurydice*, and *Caroline, or Change*, *The Old Ship of Zion*, *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play* and most recently *Fiddler on the Roof*. Becky has conceived and directed several oral history performances, including *Westville: Collected Lives* and *Bibb City: Collected Lives from a Mill Town*. Becky serves as Vice Chair of the National Playwriting Program for Region 4 of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. She is the most recent past editor for *Theatre Symposium: A Journal of the Southeastern Theatre Conference, Volumes 24 and 25*. Her research interests include cross-cultural theatre, intercultural communication, and the embodied mind. Becky's published works have appeared in *Theatre Journal*, *Feminist Teacher*, *Review: The Journal of Dramaturgy*, *Theatre Symposium*, and various edited volumes.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

Children's RE

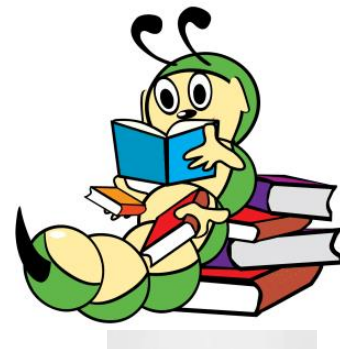
Tapestry of Faith—Love Connects Us

March 5	The More We Get Together	Nate Gross
March 12	One Person Makes a Difference	Kirstin Mix
March 19	Art Lesson	Paul Lee
March 26	The Power of Peace	Emily Jones



Children's Story

March 5	Molly Gross
March 12	Kirstin Mix
March 19	Larry Meisel
March 26	Emily Jones





* You do not need to be a member of the Fellowship to attend or register for any of these activities *

Activities

Wednesday Night Discussion Group

This group meets every Wednesday night at 7 pm and is open to everyone. The topic to be discussed is announced on the website calendar a few days in advance of the next meeting. (MH)

UU Women

The Women's Group meets monthly on the second Thursday. The time of day and the specific plans vary from month to month. The details are usually announced a month in advance and are found in the newsletter and on the website. Our next meeting on March 9th will be held at 6:30 pm at the Greystone Farms Clubhouse. We will have a farewell pot luck dinner for Nikki Rohrs who will be moving to Nevada. Please rsvp to Linda Hagberg by March 2.

Women's Book Club

A monthly meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month at 5 pm in the Meeting House. The current book is announced a month in advance, giving everyone a chance to read it. The book for March 28 will be Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance.

UU Singers

If you are interested in music or singing, please consider joining our UU Singers. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday night at 6 pm and on Sundays at 9:30 am before the service. (GFH)

Friday Lunch Group

This group meets at a different restaurant each Friday at 12:00 to have fun and discuss current events. All members and friends of the Fellowship are invited to join the group for a lively discussion. Please call Bill Harlan at 605.390.0590 to see where they will be meeting this month.

Exploring Spirituality

This new group meets the first and the third Thursdays in the Meeting House at 7 pm. The purpose of this group is to explore and grow in our own spirituality and to learn how our own spirituality expresses itself in our daily lives.

Joys and Concerns

- * We extend our condolences to Michelle Midgette and Bill Hurst on the loss of their fathers.
- * We just received word of the death of Ray Forman who died in Florida on February 8. We extend our sympathy to Betty.

Linda Hagberg March 2
 John Studstill March 4
 Kirstin Mix March 5



Bill Turman March 14
 Lisa Pyburn March 18
 Melissa Martin March 22



REASON, TOLERANCE AND FREEDOM—OUR UU WATCHWORDS

By Rev. Ed Wilson

Thank you, Earl Morse Wilbur! Thank you for those three UU watchwords! Wilbur, the late historian of Unitarianism captured in those three sparkplug words—Reason, Tolerance and Freedom—the principles that have characterized Unitarianism from its beginning. They also characterize Unitarianism today.

They are beautifully displayed above the platform and pulpit in Grace Fellowship Hall. And they are used in UU documents, public statements and buildings in many places. Wilbur's brief elaboration on the relationship of those three words to Unitarian belief and practice appears in the preface to Volume I of his two volume work, *A History of Unitarianism*.

Wilbur wrote, "It is intended here therefore, to present not so much the history of a particular sect or form of Christian *doctrine* as to consider broadly the development of a movement fundamentally characterized instead by its steadfast and increasing devotion to these three leading *principles....*" Later in the same paragraph, Wilbur wrote, "Freedom, reason and tolerance: it is these conditions above all others that this movement has from the beginning sought to promote...."

So there you have a glimpse of Unitarian history that provides an excellent framework for further development of this great movement, which is now Unitarian Universalism. Reason, tolerance and freedom are still excellent attitudes and mental practices—"conditions," as Wilbur calls them—with which to pursue denominational as well as fellowship goals. In some cases, these three words have been all it took to attract people to attend our fellowship. The same three words can be useful in explaining both historical and current UU beliefs and practices.



SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING—MARCH 12, 2017

The Board of Directors has voted to create a new board position—"associate treasurer." The board took this action after analyzing all the tasks currently assigned our volunteer treasurer. Former treasurer Nikki Rohrs did a lot! John Hart graciously agreed to become treasurer in December, but he spends a significant amount of time out of town each year. We need more help. The board also nominated Ron Ussery to fill the new position. Our bylaws require that both actions be voted on by the membership, so we're calling for a special business meeting after the service on Sunday, March 12. The meeting will be short— maybe five minutes—and we hope you'll make plans to stay a little late on that date. Ron has agreed to serve, if elected, but nominations are open to any member who wants to fill this new position. For more information, contact Board President Bill Harlan. (Do that through the office at 706.660.1442 or at uucolga@bellsouth.net. Put "associate treasurer" in the subject line.

Notes from the Social Action Committee....

- ⇒ *There will be a Social Action Committee meeting on Thursday, March 16 at 10 a.m. in the Meeting House.*
- ⇒ *GATP for February was Mission Columbus. We donated \$238.00.*
- ⇒ *GATP for this month is the SafeHouse.*
- ⇒ *Don't forget to bring in clothing for our clothing drive. There is a collection bin in the back of Grace Fellowship Hall. We are collecting clothing and shoes which would be appropriate for job interviews and work. Donations already have exceeded 117 pounds. This is the last month for this clothing drive.*
- ⇒ *Our Fellowship was well represented at a local Concerned Citizens rally. We had 20 people there to learn how to be more effective in communicating with our elected officials.*

STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE

Bits and Pieces

UU General Assembly is June 20-21 in New Orleans. The theme is Undoing Racism and the Ware Lecturer is Bryan Stevenson, author of Just Mercy. Early registration begins on March 1. For more information, check out uua.org/ga.

From the Treasurer, John Hart:

If you make a cash donation and want it recognized as part of your 2017 pledge, you must put it in an envelope, label it "Pledge 2017" and include your name. At the end of 2017 you will be mailed a statement of your donations for tax purposes.

Note: When you need to mail something to the Fellowship, please use our post office box address listed on the first page of this newsletter. We do not have a mailbox at the Heiferhorn address.

The Young Adult UU's are meeting again! Please contact Kayla Spradlin for more information. They usually meet in the evening at a local coffee shop. They welcome new members.

On the third Sunday of each month our Social Justice Committee designates a local charity to be the recipient of our Give Away the Plate (GATP) offering. The money collected in the offering which is not pledged for the operations of the Fellowship is donated to the charity.

For the latest news, visit our dynamic new website:
www.uucolumbusga.org for all the latest info about programs, schedules, announcements, etc. Our website is a blog, so click on "subscribe" on the home page and you will be notified by email whenever a new post is made.