



What's Happening

MAIN LINE UNITARIAN

SEPTEMBER 2017

WELCOME BACK

After a summer of church renovations and personal vacations, we will gather back together to start a new church year with our traditional water communion—only this year, it will not be so traditional! Please bring two items with you: a small container of water from wherever you spent your summer, whether at home or some faraway location, and a canned food item, which will be collected at our service by our children. Our own Ed Barrett will distribute these food donations at Trinity House, a low income housing project here in our community.

And remember, we will have a single, unified service this church year at 10:00 a.m.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROJECT UPDATE

As you may have noticed if you've been around MLUC this summer, there's been a whole lotta diggin', repairing, and new construction going on – dramatically increasing our energy-efficiencies and making our building grounds more welcoming to all ages and abilities! Here is just a sampling of numerous results that your investments in the ongoing Capital Campaign have made possible:

Air Conditioning/Heating

Not only is EVERY space in the building now A/C ready, the new units can also help us use less of our main heat because they use heat pump technology to warm spaces as well. Even our beloved McGinness Room has a new thermostat so the temperature will automatically be adjusted.

Exterior and Grounds

- Five new fully ADA-compliant parking spaces and a walkway make it easier to enter from the lower side entrance and access the elevator.
- The front entrance has improved accessibility and more convenient spaces for getting in and out of vehicles.
- A new tank (buried underneath the new ADA parking spaces) captures rainwater run-off from the downspouts and recharges it to the aquifer to soak into the ground.
- All new energy-efficient windows have been installed throughout the building
- The chimney has been repaired (water leakage gone).
- The nursery school playground has been refreshed including St. David's Nursery School's play equipment. (Coming attractions: the rest of the playground and terrace deck)

Interior Spaces

- The office entrance is now much easier to see and access—the left of the front entrance and a new office space has been added.
- All classrooms have new cabinets and flooring and are freshly painted.
- New carpets have been installed in all public spaces.

In Progress

- We are hooking up to the Easttown municipal sewer system—adios old septic tank!
- All gutters are being repaired or replaced—goodbye duct tape!
- New and improved signage throughout our grounds
- Almost all of the stucco has been replaced



*Together,
We Transform Lives
through
Love, Service, and Our
Welcoming Faith.*

WHO WE ARE

Main Line Unitarian Church is a diverse and caring religious community engaged in a liberating ministry of spiritual growth, human compassion, and universal justice.

At our church we embrace all people, regardless of age, race, ability, politics, financial situation, or sexual orientation; encourage and nurture every individual in his or her own search for meaning in life; and commit to serve local and world communities in promoting peace, social justice, and responsible stewardship of the earth.



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DAWNING THOUGHTS

I began work as your Director of Lifespan Religious Education a few weeks ago, and I am delighted to be here. I've been meeting people, meeting with people, and exploring the contents of my office.

One of the first things I did was get rid of my desk and office chair. That might seem radical but it goes along with the rest of the upheaval in the building, and the desk that I inherited made me feel as if I were pretending to be a bank president.

It was very imposing; I don't really wish to be imposing.

I want to be a leader and a person who you can approach with concerns, ideas, and dreams. I want my office to be a space where babies, children, young adults, parents, empty-nesters, and elders all feel welcome and included. And people everywhere on the spectrums of sexuality and gender, people with a variety of spiritual beliefs and journeys, people who are able bodied and minded and those who are disabled, people with skin and cultures of every hue and variation in the world, and people who both have and don't have financial resources and security. We have much work to do together in the next little while to get our programs for children, youth, and adults off to a running start for the year. I look forward to working with YOU... and also getting to know who you all are and what you are all looking for and finding in this congregation.



Dawn-Star Sarahs-Borchelt,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

LEGISLATING UU VALUES

On September 17, immediately following the service, you'll have another chance to let your legislators understand the UU perspective of current legislation for gun violence prevention. This time the topic is based on upholding the UU Principles "Justice, equity and compassion in human relations" and "The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all." We will work to increase awareness and take action on legislation advocating for practical, common sense policies that would reduce gun violence in our country. We recognize that gun violence affects lower income communities disproportionately. A brief overview of basic talking points will be heard during the service. Please take 5 minutes after the service to sign postcards on this important issue. Assistance will be provided to help you find your representative's contact info. Donations for postcards and stamps are appreciated. Let's work together to put our faith in action!

Find your legislator here: www.legis.state.pa.us

ANNUAL CHURCH AUCTION

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 4, when the MLUC Auction will return. Our theme this year: The Silver Screen! Think MGM, Paramount, Film Noir, the Oscars, Searchlights, Hollywood... get the picture? And how about a children's cartoon party? You betcha! Contact Gene Ramsbottom (earamsbottom@gmail.com) if interested in volunteering this year.



JAZZ N JOE RETURNS

Wednesday, September 27, at 7:30 pm. in the Fireside Room

MLUC is honored to present Alan Segal and his band, who will provide great jazz music with no admission price - open to the congregation and the outside community. Even if you have never attended a Wednesday evening Jazz N Joe, you may remember when this band performed rousing music at a Sunday service last year. Each individual band member is a skilled and respected musician in the greater Philadelphia area, and we are thrilled to host them. The band will perform every other month during the upcoming church year. Come out for an evening of live jazz, coffee, and a refreshing mid-week break.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

SEPTEMBER 3: LABOR PAINS

Naomi Leaphart

Music: Laurie Rogers, piano

The origin of Labor Day is rooted in resistance. Labor has to do with how we make income and how we make the world. How can our moral commitments be reflected in our labor? What is resistance is required in 2017, 123 years after Chicago Pullman workers refused to allow their labor to be exploited?

SEPTEMBER 10: WHAT WILL YOU BRING TO THE FEAST?

Rev. Dr. Neal R. Jones & Dawn Star-Sarahs-Borchelt

Music: Vincent Craig, piano

This multi-generational service will infuse new meaning into a traditional UU ritual - our Water Communion. As we come back together from a summer of church building renovations and personal vacations, we will celebrate a new church year and our beloved community. Remember to bring a small container of water from your summer, whether you spent the summer away or at home. In addition, bring one canned food item as a donation.

SEPTEMBER 17: NOT WHO, BUT WHAT CAUSES GUN VIOLENCE?

Rev. Dr. Neal R. Jones

The United States has the greatest incidence of gun deaths than any country in the world. On this Legislative Advocacy Sunday, we will examine the reason why.

SEPTEMBER 24: SOME SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT FORGIVENESS

Rev. Dr. Neal R. Jones

Music: MLUC Choir

The Jewish New Year begins with Rosh Hashanah and ends with Yom Kippur, ten days of penitence. We will look anew at the practice of forgiveness with a more critical eye. What can forgiveness accomplish, and what are its limitations? Should forgiveness always be granted?

CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP UPDATE

Are you a caregiver looking for a place to share with others who are in your boat? This group meets on the first and third Mondays of each month throughout the year. (September 4 meeting cancelled for Labor Day). The group gathers from 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the McGinness Room and is facilitated by the Parish Nurse, Jan Cauffman. Questions? Email jan@mluc.org.

BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY

Save the Date: On Sunday, October 22, you're invited to bring a friend to MLUC's worship service. Feel free to invite non-members and those who have not yet visited MLUC. Stay tuned for more information, which will be available in the October newsletter.

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MLUC BOOKSTORE TO REOPEN IN THE FALL

While reconstruction continues at MLUC, hold onto your used books and watch for an announcement that the Bookstore Committee is ready to accept donations. Then watch for news of the grand opening of the relocated, refurbished MLUC Bookstore in October. Our partner church, the Várfalva Unitarian Church in Transylvania, Romania, benefits from the sale of used books at the MLUC Bookstore. All income goes to help fund their religious education and their efforts to restore and maintain their 400-year-old building.

MLUC member Barbara Weber received the Steward of Partnership Award at the annual luncheon of the UU Partner Church Council during the UU General Assembly in New Orleans last June.



Close-up of the Steward of Partnership Award

LECTURE LUNCHEON

Wednesday, September 13, refreshments at 11:30, lunch at noon

The Lecture Luncheon group (formerly known as the Retired Men's Lunch) invites all interested members and friends (any age, any gender, retired or not) to join us for our monthly luncheons followed by an interesting speaker. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month September-May. The usual cost of lunch is \$10. We maintain a mailing list to notify our group of upcoming events. To have your name added, email Tim Conahan (tim.conahan@gmail.com). September's speaker is MLUC's new Director of Religious Education, Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt. She will talk about her plans for the church's religious education program. We need to know how many lunches to prepare, so RSVP to Tim by Friday, September 8.

NOMINATE AN OFFERING OUTREACH RECIPIENT

Do you have a favorite charity? Is there a local nonprofit group that would benefit from a modest gift from MLUC's Offering Outreach program? We would LOVE to hear from you! Nominate your favorite charity for Offering Outreach and help MLUC make an impact on the community.

The committee meets monthly to consider awards and we depend on YOU, the members of the congregation to suggest worthy recipients. The nomination form is available on the church website under the Social Action tab at mluc.org or from Trevor Drake (bruledrake@gmail.com). Keep those suggestions coming.

SEPTEMBER OFFERING OUTREACH

Located in the Mt. Pleasant section of Wayne, Main Line Mentoring provides activities for children and youth that encourage academic, social, and cultural growth. The Mt. Pleasant Chapel/Carr School is open four nights each week for children to work on homework and school projects, to read, and to pursue other educational interests. Two retired school teachers and volunteers from local universities and the community provide individual and small group assistance and instruction. Computer and internet access is available. Social and cultural opportunities are offered to include college tours, art classes, sporting events, and trips to museums and theaters. Visit www.facebook.com/mainlinementoring

JUSTICE AND GERRYMANDERING: WHY REDISTRICTING REFORM MATTERS

Saturday, October 7, 9:00 a.m. - noon, at the Unitarian Society of Germantown

Carol Kuniholm (chair and co-founder of Fair Districts PA) will explain the redistricting process and its impact on social policy in Pennsylvania with additional insights into New Jersey and national redistricting efforts. She will demonstrate how the current process undermines democracy, suggest a solution, and offer ideas on how all citizens can support and encourage change. After the presentation, participants will have the opportunity to break into small groups to learn more about what's happening in their area and ways they can get involved. Please register by September 15.

www.greaterphillyuu.org/events/justice-and-gerrymandering

RETIREMENT LIVING OPTIONS

Thursday, September 28, beginning at 11:00 a.m. in the McGinness Room, Elder Law Attorney Linda Anderson will enlighten us about different retirement living options, various contracts related to them, and paying for long-term care. Bert Wolfson will comment on for-profit and non-profit communities, and a panel of MLUC members and friends will give an insider's view of what it's like to live in several of the local continuing care communities. Learn about your options and have your questions answered. A light lunch will be served. The program will extend into the mid-afternoon.

UUPLAN ANNUAL MEETING 2017

October 6-7

The UUPLAN Annual Meeting will be held at the UU Church of the North Hills in Pittsburgh. They are pleased to announce that the keynote speaker is Paula Cole-Jones, long-time racial justice advocate and UU member of All-Souls Unitarian Church in Washington, DC.



Paula Cole Jones is the founder of ADORE (A Dialogue on Race & Ethnicity), a former president of DRUUMM (Diverse and Revolutionary Unitarian Universalist Multicultural Ministries) and an independent consultant specializing in multicultural competencies and institutional change. She is the author of *Encounters: Poems about Race, Ethnicity and Identity*.

It's not too early to make your reservations at a nearby Hampton Inn. For reduced rates, use "UUP" as the group rate code. The registration page will be posted at uuplan.com.

FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS EXPO

Thursday, September 21, 9:30 a.m. - Noon at the West Chester Senior Center, 530 East Union Street, West Chester

Falls remain the leading cause of injury for older Americans, threatening seniors' safety and independence. Meet with injury prevention experts to learn how to prevent falls and strategies to decrease your risk for falls. Blood pressure, hydration, osteoporosis, & fall risk/balance assessment screenings will be offered (appt. needed for fall risk/balance screening). Call 610-431-4242. Nutrition info, info on Emergency Services in the county, and a drug take back will be available.

GREATER PHILLY UU CLUSTER MEETING

Saturday, September 23, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at MLUC

Have you ever attended a GPC meeting? If not, September is your chance. The next meeting will take place at MLUC. To learn about more Cluster events, visit greaterphillyuu.org.

KAMMERMUSIK CONCERT

Sunday, September 24, at 3:00 p.m.

Kammermusik Main Line will present a concert at MLUC this month. Performing will be Deborah Reeder, cello; Diane Monroe, violin; Christine Delbeau, piano; and Kathryn Mehrtens, french horn. The program will include works by Brahms, Mozart, Schumann, and others. A reception in the Fireside Room will follow the concert. Tickets available at the door: \$20 regular price, \$15 seniors, \$13 students. For more information call 610-664-0346 or email philtrio@aol.com.

Psssst! ... Making Your Annual Pledge is Easier Than Ever!

Visit mluc.org/support-your-church, fill out a quick form, and follow the instructions based on your preferred payment method. If you've already pledged, manage your payments/information anytime from tinyurl.com/mlucpayments.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Artist Enzhao Liu, recent graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA), will show his lively paintings in the Fireside Gallery from September 21 through November 2.

The public is invited to an opening reception on Sunday, October 8, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Virgil Marti, renowned art critic and PAFA instructor says of Liu's work:

"The paintings construct a rich, complex world – attempting to condense vast expanses of time and space into a cosmos of their own. They reach for the far depths of the universe and to the depths of the oceans – and also the virtual world and the space of the internet. World and Art histories combine with mythical origin stories – all existing simultaneously on the same picture plane. Spatially compressed, the paintings sing with the language of pattern and color. All are recognizable as being by the same hand, but a hand that is capable of myriad effects. One senses a profound joy in the materiality of pigment on surface and the restless search for ever more transmutations. The work of Enzhao Liu invites us on a journey of the imagination - and to explore the wonders of external and internal worlds."



DRUMM ANNUAL GATHERING

October 21-22, Lanoka Harbor, NJ

DRUUMM is a UU People of Color Ministry and anti-racist collective bringing lay and religious professionals together to overcome racism and transform UUism through our multicultural experiences. The event is titled, *On the Brink: Reclaiming Our Past for a Better Future*.

Learn more at <http://druumm.onefireplace.org/Annual-Gathering-2017>

JOIN SMALL GROUP MINISTRY THIS FALL

A CONNECTION is the energy that exists between people when they can give and receive without judgement. Small Group Ministry is open to anyone who wishes to participate. Groups of about 10 people gather twice each month at the church or in private residences. Trained facilitators, who meet regularly with the associate minister, guide the groups. Learn more and fill out an interest form with your availability at mluc.org or contact Jenny Campbell at jenny@campbell-collaboratives.com.

If MLUC is like family to you, please include it in your will. Bequests of all sizes will support the church community and its work on behalf of justice, equity, compassion, religious freedom, and spiritual growth. For more information on planned giving, email endowment@mluc.org

JOYS AND CONCERNS

We extend our support to...

Nancy Leinwand, whose 31-year-old daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Leinwand, died on July 31. The family requests that memorial gifts be made to the Melanoma Research Foundation. Find out more about the MRF at <https://www.melanoma.org>.

Ned Goodrich, who has been at Bryn Mawr Terrace following a stay at HUP.

The **family of Don Smith**, longtime member of MLUC, who passed away in July.

Doug Hunt, whose mother passed away in August.

The **family of DB Templeton**, who passed away on June 10.

We extend our congratulations to...

Kay Haskell, who recently moved to Asheville, NC. She can still be reached at her usual mobile phone number and email, kay.haskell@verizon.net.

Mike and Nuala Carpenter, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this July.

We extend our appreciation to...

Peter McDowell for his last-minute efforts in setting up the media for Youth Con.

All the staff, volunteers and numerous partners, contractors, and vendors working hard to renovate our church.



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ON THE WEB

The complete MLUC calendar of events is online at www.mluc.org. Members can click the front page icon to request a room for their meeting or event.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

The newsletter of Main Line Unitarian Church is published 12 times a year. Submissions of 225 words or fewer are due on **September 10** for the October issue. Submit material to news@mluc.org. To learn more about communications at MLUC, contact Brianna Johnson (brianna@mluc.org).