#### USG ANNOUNCEMENTS, WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 2019 - @USGUU, #USGUU

# This Morning in Worship

#### Atonement over Contempt, Rev. Kent Matthies

The ark is opened and the Torah scrolls are taken out. Reading the sacred text guides us to respond to our errors, correct and learn from our mistakes, and reveal more fully who we are and can become. In the United States a toxic culture of contempt is corroding our souls. Political disagreements generate harsh polarization. How can we come together as one people (at one ment, if you will) and be our best true selves?

#### We Share The Plate this Sunday with Rebuilding Together Philadelphia.

Next weekend (Friday, Oct. 11 & Saturday, Oct. 12) Barbara Ginn and George Buckmann will lead the USG RTP Team in our major hands-on service project. The donations you make will go toward purchasing the myriad supplies needed to help homeowners make repairs and thus stay in their homes.



# This Sunday in Fellowship & Calls to Action

After the service, you have opportunities to...

- Enjoy the greeting and refreshments offered by Village 5. Food bringers, please label items containing nuts.
- At 12:00pm, join the Ending Racism Committee in the Sullivan Chapel for an ERC Open House. They will share visually some of the BLUU (Black Lives of UU) resources, including the stories of prominent Black UUs in our history, and plans for the church year. At 1:00pm, they will Engage the BLUU Box. Refreshments will be provided.
- Then return by 7:00pm this evening for....



See page 2 for Concert details.

# A Pete Seeger Tribute Singalong Concert October 6, 7:00 - 10:00pm at USG

### Co-sponsored by the Philadelphia Folksong Society and USG

Some of the proceeds of the concert will go to POWER. The concert will start at 7:00pm; doors will open at 6:30pm. Suggested donation is \$15-75, sliding scale; half at the door for no or low wage folks. For advance tickets, go to https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=folk To arrange childcare, please call 215-848-6246.



Our new ELEVATOR is accessible from all three floors:

outside the Daskam Room on the third floor; off the Sullivan rooms on the second; and off the Committee Room on the first.

From outside, park in the Courtyard and enter the Dining Room, then turn left. OR park in the lot off Johnson Street, enter the Edna Jones Assembly Room via the ramp, turn right and walk past the Daskam Room.

## Next Sunday before the service, come early so you can...

- Meditate in the Grove or Meditation Room, 9:15 10:20am.

  Meditation, reading, dharma and sharing are offered in Sullivan 3 on the First and Second Sundays of the month between 9:15 and 10:20am. All are welcome to join in quietly. On the other Sundays the space is open for those who choose to come and sit.
- Bring in nonperishable donations for the Food Pantry
  Help stock St. Vincent dePaul's Food Pantry. On your next grocery trip, buy extra and
  then place your donations on the designated carts in the Kitchen.

#### Our Text-Giving Option Via Breeze, our Church Management System

To give a pledge or contribution via text, please do the following:

- 1. Send text to this 10-digit Text Giving number 215-608-2660
- 2. In the message field put the amount, a space, and the fund you wish to donate to. (Fund = Share The Plate (STP) or PLEDGE. Pledge is the default.) For example: 25 pledge (\$25 would be donated to pledge payment) or 25 STP (\$25 would be donated to go to our Share The Plate of the month).
- 3. When using Breeze, MAKE SELECTIONS by using the up and down arrows to scroll.
- 4. Press send.
- 5. First time givers will be prompted to provide their payment method via a secure web page.
- 6. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount and fund you wish to give, and it will process automatically

#### **Upcoming Events**

Hang out with Mike & Spruce Up the USG Grounds

# Thursday, October 10, 8:00am start

and Saturday, October 19, 9:00am start

Bring your gardening gloves and tools and your water bottle. Please RSVP to Mike at **sexton@usguu.org** so that he knows whom to expect.



# Exploring Elderhood October Gathering Friday, October 11, 2:00 - 4:30pm

The Secrets of Trees, led by Sarah West. The beautiful grove trees that we see standing as quiet sentinels are really very busy. We will explore what our trees are doing all year- how they can sense and respond to their surroundings and how they can help us save the planet.



# Friday & Saturday, October 11 & 12 Rebuilding Together Philadelphia!

Help rehab a home! We still need more volunteers on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11. For more information about volunteering for this event, talk to USG's leaders Barbara Ginn and/or George Buckmann during Fellowship Hour. If you're 14 years old or older, volunteer for either one or both days by sending an email to rebuildingphilly@usguu.org.



#### SIGN UP TODAY for the 2019 Men's Retreat

Friday through Sunday, November 1-3

The Thirteenth Annual Men's Retreat will be held at the Temenos Retreat Center near West Chester, PA. (Temenoscommunity.org) Every man in the Philadelphia area is invited to attend and experience a wonderful weekend. Activities will include workshops, yoga, hiking, drumming around a bonfire, good food, poker, topped off with a Sunday morning worship service. Come get to know and bond with the other men in USG and in the Philadelphia area congregations. The cost for the weekend is



\$200. This includes Friday supper, three meals on Saturday and Sunday breakfast. If you plan to come, please pay the \$200 fee on the USG website, **USGUU.org> Payment Center**. Please let Hal Krieger (mensretreat@usguu.org) know of your plans. Space is limited.

# THE HOLIDAYS AND HOLY DAYS BEGIN --- SAVE THE DATES!



Pumpkin Carving Night - Friday, October 25 Diwali, the Festival of Lights - Saturday, October 26 Day of the Dead/ *Dia de los Muertos* - Sunday, October 27

# Spiritual Development

#### **Breathe**

#### Sundays, October 13 - December 29, 5:00-6:30pm.

A new weekly program of mindfulness classes led by trained meditation teachers, presented by the Adult Spiritual Development Committee's new Center for Mindfulness at the USG. There is no fee for the classes, but Dana (Donations to the teachers) are greatly appreciated. Topics of Sessions will include: Mindful Self-Compassion, Buddhism in Action,



Interpersonal Mindfulness, You vs. Desires and Cravings (Wrestling the Monsters). For more information, please go to usguu.org/events/breathe.

# The Spirit in Action PLEASE LET EVERYONE KNOW ABOUT THIS... ESPECIALLY THOSE TURNING 18

Make sure to register before October 7 if you want to vote in the November election. You can do it online at **VotesPA.com**.



#### Fight Poverty: Raise the Wage!

UUPLAN and allies are stepping up the pressure on elected officials across PA to support legislation to raise the PA minimum wage (from current \$7.25/hr to \$12/hr and then by steps to \$15/hr). UUs were there at a major rally in Harrisburg on September 17 and are urged to follow up with phone banking and visits to legislators. To get involved, contact Dennis Brunn (uuplan@usguu.org).



#### **News and Announcements**

#### Interested in joining USG?

The next New Member Signing will be on Sunday, **November 10** during the service. Please take a UU-101 class, offered at 12:00pm on the third Sunday of each month (next: **October 20**) and a New Member Orientation (next: 9:30am also on **Sunday, October 20**). For more information, please visit the Membership page in the Home menu on our website, **usguu.org** or email **Welcoming@usguu.org** 



#### Follow @uugermantown on Instagram!

Caroline Bright is leading a team creating USG's new Instagram account. You may see her husband Joel taking pictures and Caroline posting on Sunday mornings.



#### **Electronic and Texting Donations**

It's a great way to make regular donations and many other USG payments. Here's how:

If you don't already have an account in Breeze (USG's software), go to https://usg.breezechms.com/. Click on "Create Account" at the bottom. Then enter your own name as it is in the USG database (this might take more than one try, due to nicknames, etc.) and your email address. Breeze will then email that address with a link to set up any username and



password you want. Once you're logged in, you can create payment methods and manage recurring donations under the "Give Now" tab.

If you don't succeed with an account set up, contact Celeste (215-844-1157) to get the name and email address we have on file for you.

With an active account, you can also text donations to 215-608-2660. By default, amounts are applied as a pledge, unless you specify another fund (for example, \$20 STP). Send "commands" to see other texting options.

As always, we thank you so much for your generous support.

#### **Color Coded Name Tags**

You may have noticed name tags are now color coded by Village. We hope this will make them easier to find on the board and also easier for you to find folks that live near you in the congregation. If you have a correction, please email Eric Foster at **Welcoming@usguu.org**. If you do not yet have your color-coded insert, they can be found in the blue name tag box at the Welcome table.



#### Villages at USG

If you have any questions about Villages at USG, please direct them to <u>Villages@usguu.org</u>. Thanks to all the Villages who offer a friendly welcome and refreshments every Sunday. Upcoming Fellowship Hour Hosts:

October 13 - Village 7

October 20 - Villages 8 & 9

October 27 - Village 10



# **Our Wider Community**

The Greater Philly Cluster Summit Meeting
Saturday October 19, 10am - 3pm
Main Line Unitarian Church, 816 S Valley Forge Rd, Devon, PA 19333
The 14 congregations of the Greater Philly Cluster are invited to attend the Summit to explore and determine the organizational structure and future of the Cluster.



#### Connect with Others at USG

#### Use Breeze on your Computer or Smartphone

Connect with other USG visitors and members through Breeze, USG's database, which includes a Member Directory. Go to usg.breezechms.com. Log in with our church's domain ID - usg - and then create your own user name and password. Find people's phone numbers, addresses, directions, all in one place. If you have any questions, please contact communications@usguu.org.



#### Join a USG Facebook Group!

To find out more, connect with USG groups via Facebook. You will find the following groups by searching <u>Facebook.com</u> for "USG":

- ASD (Adult Spiritual Development)
- CSD (Child Spiritual Development)
- YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists)
- YA (Young Adult)
- Greater Philly UUs Social Justice & Other News for the Greater Philly Area
- P.U.S.H. (Philadelphia Unitarian Society of Humanists)
- Exploring Elderhood

#### Join Ongoing Events & Groups

Please check the <u>usguu.org</u> website for more information. Also see the **leaflet** available at the Welcome Table and on the wall by the Name Tag boards for ALL our monthly recurring events - so many we just do not have the room here!

#### WEEKLY

- Nature Walking at Valley Green April through November, every Monday and Thursday at 9:00am, you can meet others at Valley Green in Chestnut Hill for a morning walk. Point Person is Steve Conrad, walks@usguu.org
- CAMI (Citizens Against Mass Incarceration) Now meets every Wednesday, 3:00-5:00pm, off-site at Janes Memorial Church, 47 East Haines St. Contact Nancy Anderson.

#### MONTHLY GROUPS & EVENTS OCCURING THIS NEXT WEEK

- EarthSpirit Circle-First Monday (except after holiday weekends) at 7:00pm. Next: October 7. At USG. Contact earth@usguu.org.
- 20's & 30's SGM Group Second Wednesday, October 9, 7:00pm, Drop-in Young Adults Small Group Ministry group. Contact Johanna at youngadults@usguu.org or on Facebook where they maintain an active invite-only activities group. (Please note corrected email address.)
- Caregivers Support Group Second Friday, October 11, 11:00am 1:00pm. USG. Contact Maura Gallagher at caregivers@usguu.org.
- Racism Book Study Group Second Monday, October 14, 7:30 9:00pm. Contact Treva Burger at bookstudy.usguu.org
- LOC for POWER Local Organizing Committee for Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower, and Renew Precedes the Social Justice Coffee Hour on the Third Sunday. Sunday, October 20, 9:00 9:40am. At USG. Contact Dennis Brunn, power@usguu.org.
- Coffee Hour for Social Justice Third Sunday, October 20, 9:45 10:20am. Contact socialaction@usguu.org.

#### **Our Caring Community**

# We hold in our thoughts and prayers...

- ...Mary Kalyna, whose mother Rosalie Hawryshkiw has died at age 97. Mary is continuing to recover herself from a serious fall last June. We send her our love.
- ...Georganne Hardin-Fong. Georganne's husband, Francisco Delgado, underwent emergency open heart surgery on September 25 at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. He expects to enter St. Joseph's Rehab facility the weekend of October 5.
- .Zachary Bosco and his mother, Ms. Madeline Kingsboro, as she deals with cancer challenges and other health concerns.
- ...Nancy Roeker-Coates. Her mother, Pauline Roeker, died on September 17 at age 91.

#### We are happy to pass on from...

...Lynne Kalish: I'm sending a big "thank you" to my USG family for helping me to celebrate my 75th birthday with cake, a huge card, and a wonderful "Happy Birthday" serenade on Sunday, September 22. You are a big part of my life and very special to me. Love, Lynne

#### **Our Caring Team**

Chair Linda Bernstein, Sarah West, Andi Bernstein and Rev. Kent Matthies

If you are aware of any joys or concerns that should be part of our caring system, please let us know. Contact any member of the Caring Team. Send emails to <a href="mailto:caring@usguu.org">caring@usguu.org</a>. You also can call a member and leave a voice message. Your call will be returned ASAP.



#### **USG's Committee On Ministry (COM)**

COM is responsible for helping to facilitate communications and resolve conflicts within USG, and for handling issues under USG's Safe Congregation Policy and Covenant of Right Relations.

To find out more, search for "COM" at <a href="mailto:usguu.org">usguu.org</a> or contact <a href="mailto:com@usguu.org">com@usguu.org</a>.



#### **USG's Cancer Support Group**

Co-chairs are Susan Zingale-Baird and Sarah West. Contact cancersupport@usguu.org.

