Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

Sundays: One Service Only at 10:30, Live in Channing and Live-streamed on Zoom.
Please see Page 2, and keep an eye on your email, as well as www.uuprinceton.org for updates.

September 3, at 10:30 a.m. Live in Channing Hall and Live-streamed on Zoom
Good, Holy, Trouble

The late Congressman and civil rights pioneer Rep. John Lewis spoke of the need to get into “good trouble” to “redeem the soul of America.” On this Labor Day weekend, let us meditate on Lewis’ living challenge and how it can guide toward a more just tomorrow.

Worship Leader: Rev. Bill Neely  Worship Associate: To Be Announced
Music: Special Musician TBA; Asher Severini, pianist; Marjorie Herman

September 10, at 10:30 a.m. Live in Channing Hall and Live-streamed on Zoom
Beginnings: A Water Communion Service

We join together for our annual Homecoming service where we celebrate the symbolic beginning of our congregational year. Please bring a small bit of water from your home or summer travels to add to our collective bowl as we begin, again, in love. This service also includes our annual Back-to-School "Backpack" Blessing for students of all ages: from Pre-K to Vocational, Apprenticeship or Grad School. Bring your backpack/bag or another item you use regularly in your schooling and receive a special token with our blessing.

Worship Leaders: Revs. Bill Neely & Jennifer Kelleher
Worship Associate: Kirsten Shearer
Music: Adult Choir; Asher Severini, pianist; Marjorie Herman

September 17, at 10:30 a.m. Live in Channing Hall and Live-streamed on Zoom
Sin? Repentance? Repair?: Reconciliation and the Days of Awe

Our service today honors the Jewish High Holidays, specifically the Days of Awe, the ten days starting with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Yom Kippur. With inspiration from On Repentance and Repair: Making Amends in an Unapologetic World by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg, let us consider the harms within ourselves and our world and how we may foster transformation, embrace reconciliation and encourage healing.

Worship Leader: Rev. Jennifer Kelleher  Worship Associate: Linda Joy Miller
Music: Special Musician TBA; Asher Severini, pianist; Marjorie Herman

September 24, at 10:30 a.m. Live in Channing Hall and Live-streamed on Zoom
The Creative Spark

Everyone is creative, but not in the same way. Yet all of our creativity, shared, encouraged, and celebrated, can create beauty, resilience, and opportunities for growth and change. Let’s embrace our creativity together.

Worship Leader: Rev. Bill Neely  Worship Associate: Isabela Morales
Music: Special Musician TBA; Asher Severini, pianist; Marjorie Herman
My favorite back-to-school supply was the frequently misnamed pencil box. It held so much more than pencils: pens, erasers, some markers, some gum. It was a cheap, plastic carrier of the mundane and necessary that turned into a treasure chest of riches and supplies for school. Present and properly stocked, it meant that school could happen. Misplaced or missing essentials, it meant that school would be tricky. And it was important to start the new school year ready-to-go, with an amply stocked pencil box ready to tackle any challenge.

Over the course of the year, however, the box would lose items and gain some others. Maybe the markers would be kept in a drawer so that there was less to cramp the box. Maybe fewer pens, some extra erasers, a new pencil or two, and some stickers would be added. The gum would have to go - it ended up tasting like pencils when you kept it in the pencil box. And somehow the box ended up collecting things that I never remembered putting in there: paperclips, a thumb tack, some staples, a baseball card. Who knows where those came from?

The contents would gradually change over the course of the year, and the box itself would get marked up, or doodled-upon as well. In September, you really couldn’t imagine how the box would look in June. Like everything else, we may have thoughts, plans, and prayers about what is to come, but the days unfold as they will, in often unpredictable ways. We can only make sure that we have the essentials in our pencil boxes to be able to adapt and go with the flow.

At UU Princeton, our essentials are hope, love, justice, and joy. Expressed in our Mission Statement, those are the blessings that we cultivate in our community and give to the world. Those values inform all that we do and guide our shared ministries in every way. If we’ve learned anything in recent years, it’s that surprises will challenge us without warning, but we’ve also learned that each one offers us the opportunity to enliven our shared ministries in new and urgent ways.

And as we live into this year together, hope, love, justice and joy, expressed imperfectly, creatively, and in faithful relationship with one another, will be our essential implements. With them we’ll write, draw, and create a world that has more of each value. We’ll grow them in ourselves as we gift them to the world. And unlike real pencil boxes which can run out of room, there is always room for more hope, love, justice, and joy in our hearts, homes, congregation, and community.

We’re going to have a wonderful year, friends. We have lots going on, and lots more is planned, so get your pencil boxes ready. We have things to learn together, and ways to grow together, and beauty to make together, and care to offer together, and justice to create together. We don’t know every way in which our shared ministries will unfold, but we know they’ll be called for. And together, we’ll meet every call, in love.
September Spiritual Theme – Beginnings  
By Chalice Circle Facilitators

Our Monthly Spiritual Themes guide our Chalice Circles, which are small, intentional groups of members and friends that gather for spiritual enrichment through personal sharing. For more information on Chalice Circles, please email Linda Benson at chalicecircles@uuprinceton.org. Our Chalice Circle thoughts and questions around the theme of Beginnings this month are:

"Nothing is predestined. The obstacles of your past can become the gateways that lead to new beginnings." — Queen Lili‘uokalani

What obstacles do you see now as actually a beginning?

"You can learn new things at any time in your life if you're willing to be a beginner. If you actually learn to like being a beginner, the whole world opens up to you." — Barbara Sher

Is it hard for you to accept 'beginner status'?  
What has your experience been with accepting or denying being a beginner?

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and starting on the first one." — Mark Twain

Long after Twain, the Harvard Business Review reported on a study on why projects fail. They found that the reason most projects fail is 'failure to start'.

How is that true in your life? If it is true for you.

No quote here, but a question. In a search for references to beginnings, most included the term 'new beginnings'. Aside from the redundancy,

Why do people always talk about 'new beginnings'?  
Do you have any experiences with old beginnings?

Chalice Circles Recruiting New Members

Chalice Circles are small groups that meet monthly to share our experiences and thoughts around spiritual themes. Topics of discussion align with the spiritual themes of the Sunday Services.

The format of Chalice Circles leads to deep reflection on UU Principles as well as strong bonds between members. Sharing is done in confidence without cross-talk or feedback from other members, which creates a safe place to be fully heard and a practice of mindfully listening to others.

As we begin our new church year, we encourage new members to consider becoming involved in this sacred ministry. Registration will take place after Sunday services in September, or you are welcome to register online with the link or QR code shown here. [https://tinyurl.com/UUPrinceton](https://tinyurl.com/UUPrinceton)

Questions can be sent to ChaliceCircles@uuprinceton.org. ~Kay Hasegawa

UU Princeton Open House: September 10 at 12:30 pm  
Membership, Lifespan Faith Development, and Music Ministry

Join us for a UU Princeton Open House on Sunday, September 10 at 12:30pm. Stay after service for brunch hosted by our music ministry and come on over to Fahs Theatre just after to learn more about Membership at UU Princeton; our Children, Youth and Adult Faith Development programs; and our Music Ministry. All are welcome! Spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors. Together may we deepen our mission as an open, welcoming community who live a message of hope, love, justice and joy. ~Revs. Bill and Jennifer, and Margie Herman
Children and Youth Ministry

It has been a delight to welcome over 30 children and 10 adults to our summer events and activities. We are grateful to Beth Behrend, Carol Haag, Audrey Pico, Lydia Rieck and Molly Sharlach for leading children’s gatherings this summer. They have included a hike on Mountain Lakes Nature Preserve trails adjacent to UU Princeton property, an outdoor “slip and slide,” lessons on the science of sound waves, on plant life and the interconnected web, and on mandala artistry and meaning. We have two more activities planned for Sundays September 17 and 24. Do come join in these gatherings of connection, learning and fun. And don’t miss our Ingathering and Water Communion, including our annual Back-to-School “Backpack Blessing,” for students of all ages, on Sunday, September 10.

SUMMER EXPLORATIONS (See Photos on Page 9)

September 10 at 12:30pm:
UU Princeton Open House: Membership, Lifespan Faith Development, and Music Ministry
Our fall-spring program for children and youth begins on October 1. For a more detailed description of our 2023-2024 program, join us for a UU Princeton Open House on Sunday, September 10 at 12:45pm. Stay after service for brunch hosted by our music ministry and come on over to Fahs Theatre just after. This is a great event to spread the word about and invite your friends and neighbors.

Registration for Children and Youth for the upcoming year will be available later in September. Stay tuned to emails and weekly E-Happenings for an overview on the year’s program options and electronic registration form.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS IN CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY
Our 2023-2024 programming will begin Sunday, October 1 and we are seeking additional volunteers to lead our fun and meaningful gatherings for children and youth.

Roles we are looking to fill for the 2023-2024 program year:

Leaders who serve 1x/month, time commitment is moderate. 2-3 hours max each month coordinating with your teaching team and preparing for the lesson. Arriving by 10am Sunday morning to set-up and brief our classroom assistant. We need 1 additional leader for the Pre-K/K age group, 1 additional leader for the 1st-4th age group, 2 additional leaders for the 5th-6th age group and 2 additional leaders for Coming of Age (see below).

Leaders & Mentors for Coming of Age: 7th-9th graders are invited into a special rite of passage, our "Coming of Age" ceremony. This ceremony is preceded by a year-long program helping them to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and articulate their own beliefs. Leaders coordinate and facilitate our weekly sessions, one daytime retreat and empower our youth to lead their fundraising and social justice activities. Mentors provide additional guidance to one of the youth as they explore their personal beliefs and attend some Sunday morning sessions, if possible the retreat, and help out with the fundraiser and other activities. We will need at least 2 additional leaders and 10-12 mentors to support our incoming youth.

Assistants who serve 1x/month, time commitment is minimal. 20-30 minutes the week before your chosen Sunday and arriving by 10:10am Sunday mornings to help class leaders with set-up. Openings for 2 age ranges: Pre-K/Kindergarten and 1st-4th grade.

Orientation and training are provided (see date below). All volunteers work together on a team and teams include veteran leaders who will support newer leaders and assistants.

VOLUNTEERS, PLEASE SAVE THE DATE, more details will be sent to you directly: CHILDREN & YOUTH LEADERS AND ASSISTANT ORIENTATION/TEAM BUILDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16: 10AM-3PM in person at UU Princeton (Lunch provided). If you would like to volunteer but cannot make the in-person training additional arrangements will be provided.

Please contact me to learn more about our volunteer opportunities. Together we’ll find a meaningful way for you to serve in this ministry based on your interest and availability.

And as always, I am here for you in times of personal and family transitions and/or challenges. Please do contact me at jennifer@uuprinceton.org or 609-924-1604, ext. 118 if I can be of support.

With abiding love, Rev. Jennifer
**Joys and Sorrows**

Pastoral Associates is a group of trained and caring members of the congregation that offers support and assistance to congregants facing difficulties, crises, or life transitions. Rev. Jennifer Kelleher (jennifer@uuprinceton.org) is the primary support for Pastoral Associates and our Prayer Circle. You are always welcome to reach out directly to Rev. Jennifer and/or Rev. Bill Neely (bill@uuprinceton.org) for pastoral care and support in times of difficulty and times of celebration.

To help nurture a beloved community here in this congregation, please remember to share significant events in members’ lives with the Pastoral Associates, who are charged with extending the pastoral ministry. This column is a place to inform the larger community of major events in people’s lives. Sometimes people want to have their news shared; sometimes privacy and confidentiality prevail. Items for this column should be sent to pa@uuprinceton.org. All items will be reviewed by the Pastoral Associate leadership team before publishing (Lauren Foss, Rev. Jennifer Kelleher, and Rev. Bill Neely).

**That's Sunday August 27!**

**UU Princeton Adult Choir**

While singing with the Adult Choir is a wonderful volunteer opportunity, it is truly something you do for yourself. Two Sundays each month the Adult Choir enhances the theme of the service with inspiration from a wide range of sources. Led by Music Director Marjorie Herman, D.M., the Adult Choir serves as a model for living in community, vocally and spiritually. If you couldn’t make the Meet & Greet on the 27th, drop in any time.

We’re proud to announce that our Adult Choir will participate in the Fall Gala for UU FaithAction NJ being held on Saturday, Sept. 9 from 12-3pm in Channing Hall.

**Rehearsals:** each Wednesday evening in Channing Hall from 7:30 – 9:00pm.

**Princeton Handbell Choir**

Ringing bells is like no other musical experience, giving ringers the chance to be part of that heavenly, yet penetrating sound. We now have three octaves of bells, 36 bells in all, and 11 ringers, which is a full complement. But we’re always looking for new ringers to join us. Led by Handbell Director Joelle Piercy, our inspiration for the past dozen years or so.

**Rehearsals:** every Thursday evening in Founders Room from 6:30pm – 8:30.

**MUSIC MINISTRY BRUNCH**

September 10 after the Worship Service - come feast while you greet your neighbors.

Margie Herman marjmuse@verizon.net

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**Gracenotes**

**UU Music Ministry Annual IN PERSON Invite**

You’re invited to our Annual Meet and Greet Sunday August 27, 5:30pm – 7:30pm, Channing Hall

Bring a simple finger food dish to share. (Newcomers, be our Guests)

Here’s our yearly call to all congregants who are thinking about participating in two of our most visible groups of music-makers: the Adult Choir and the Handbell Choir. Our Music Ministry spreads inspiration to all who come to services and concerts. No matter what level of proficiency, this Ministry consists of musicians and music lovers who share an understanding of the power of music to heal and transform. Hopefully, this event will speak to your eager, or just dormant, singer or ringer at this point in your life!

**That’s Sunday August 27!**

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Margie Herman marjmuse@verizon.net

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**Mission Statement of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton**

In our open, welcoming community we live our message of hope, love, justice, and joy.

Approved at the 6/3/2012 Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton Annual Meeting
**Exploring Our Faith**

Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism (UU) and UU Princeton? Attend *Exploring Our Faith*, an interactive 60-minute discussion with Rev. Bill Neely. We’ll talk about UU beliefs and history, our congregation and people, and the meaning of membership. All are welcome! *Our next Exploring Our Faith will be on Sunday, Sept 17 from 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.*

**Short Story Hour**

Join Rev. Bill for the reading and discussion of a short story! All are welcome as we engage the spiritual themes of a short work of fiction. *The program will be offered on Zoom on Friday, Sept. 22 at 12 noon.* Keep an eye on your email for the Zoom link.

**OWL is about Our WHOLE Lives!**

*It's not just for kids.*

The UUA/UCC have developed workshops exploring sexuality for Adults, and also for Young Adults. Alice Deeanin (*adeeanin@villanova.edu*) and Judy Vee (*judyvee@gmail.com*) plan to facilitate these programs (12 sessions) starting in October. Please let us know if you are interested before 9/18. Scheduling will be developed for participants.

**Songs of Mediation: An Introduction to Transformational Mediation**

*With Dr. Robin Shapiro and Margie Herman*

Sunday Oct. 1, 2023, 12:00pm – 1:00pm, Founders Room

Sponsored by the UU Music Ministry

Making music is an apt metaphor for this original workshop which outlines a humanity infused reorganization of Conflict-Resolution. We all have experienced conflicts in our relationships. This worthy issue has been a field of study and application for as long as there have been people with differing opinions. Mediation, typically in the arena of legal issues, has been one way for people to try to mitigate their arguments, without having to engage an attorney or judge. However, this method is based on an array of techniques that urge the parties involved to come to a conclusion, regardless of how they may feel about reaching it. To this end, specifically chosen UU hymns will interface with this groundbreaking material.

Creating a safe and open space for conversation, and not just regarding legal matters, is a hallmark of an experienced mediator. Ensuring that everyone involved in a particular conflict has a seat at the table requires a special skills set. Enter… *Transformational Mediation*. Tools included in this self-determined mediation are: deep listening skills, reflective feedback, giving attention to every person present, allowing every voice to be heard, and asking the well framed question. These skills are part and parcel of what a Transformational Mediator brings to the mediation table. Combining them with an understanding of the psychology of conflict can be the key to opening channels of communication where little or none was possible.

**Transformational Mediation is an appropriate tool to use for:**

- Family, marital, disharmony; Work related conflicts; Elder lifestyle issues and family decisions; and one-on-one communication breakdown. This method guides people to get underneath the initial speed bump, and reach into the heart of the deeper matter. Feelings matter. Voices matter. Emotions matter.

Robin Shapiro, Transformational Mediator, brings decades of experience to this work. As a doctor, teacher, counselor, author, and keynote speaker, Robin has combined these life-long skills with an original method that enables others resolve the even the most difficult of conflicts. For more information, contact: *Robin Shapiro ubewelltoo@gmail.com 609-709-6352 (call or text)*

**Women’s Alliance**

*In-Person Lunch and Program – Thursday September 21, 2023, 12:00-2:00 p.m., Founders Room*

For our first lunch this church year we are very pleased to present *Conversations with Poetry with Rev. Bill Neely*. Poetry has the ability to open new doors of insight and passion in the mind and heart, often using simple experiences and everyday occurrences. This dynamic creates greater meaning in our daily lives. Let’s converse with some of Rev. Bill’s favorite poems, and each other, and see how the mundane can transform into the miraculous. *Bring a sandwich or salad to share for lunch (hot and cold drinks and desserts will be provided) and socializing in the Founders Room at noon.* The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. Contact Lisa Roche (see contact information below) with any questions. No reservation is needed and all congregants and guests are welcome!

**About Women’s Alliance**

The Women’s Alliance promotes friendship and kindness, inspires learning and serves the congregation and greater community. We organize monthly lunches with timely programs of general interest, assist bereaved families with receptions following memorial services and raise funds to support organizations that serve women and children. Anyone who supports what we do and wishes to participate in our activities may become a member of the Women’s Alliance upon payment of annual dues of $10. To be placed on our e-mail list for information about the monthly lunches and other activities, to obtain more information about Women’s Alliance or to become a member please contact Lisa Roche, President, phone (609) 403-8148, text (609) 933-4194 or rochebarbiero@gmail.com.

(Adult Faith continued on page 11)
Racial Justice Ministry

Do you have a passion for equity, anti-racism and social justice? The focus of our Racial Justice Ministry includes race related issues in local governments, working with indigenous peoples, education and school policies, faith development opportunities (a congregational book read is in the works for example), and looking at our own internal policies, practices and history.

Come and check us out and be part of our work. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Email racialjustice@uuprinceton.org for more information or to get on our mailing list. Or you can contact co-chairs Kevin Trayner and Ted Fetter directly at Kevintrayner@gmail.com or fetter4@verizon.net.

Ministry for the Earth

Help Create Climate Justice
JOIN US at the
MARCH TO END FOSSIL FUELS
Sunday, Sept 17th - 1PM - NYC

Join a contingent of UUs from Princeton and other UU congregations in NJ & NY, as we join with thousands of others at a massive march and rally, demanding that President Biden take bold action to End Fossil Fuels.

Take a spiritually grounded, optimistic climate action!
Here's a golden opportunity to join with family and friends to demonstrate that you value a healthy environment! We will be arranging to travel as a group to NYC. Logistical details will be a function of group size. So let us know ASAP if you want to join our group! Send a message to HBNich@gmail.com with the subject line "March".

This September in New York City, the United Nations Secretary-General is hosting a first-of-its-kind Climate Ambition Summit to compel world leaders to stop the fossil fuel expansion driving the climate emergency.

On September 17th, ahead of the Summit, a coalition of over 60 organizations, including UUA and UU Faith Action NJ are urging their members and friends to demonstrate that President Biden needs to take bold action to End Fossil Fuels. Biden must reject new fossil fuel projects, phase out fossil fuel production, and declare a climate emergency.

More info and ways to get involved can be found at endfossilfuels.us. But if you want to participate with other UUCPers, please send a message to HBNich@gmail.com with the subject line "March". ~ Ray Nichols

Rainbow Ministry

Save The Date! UUCP’s Rainbow Ministry will be holding two How To Be An Ally-themed sessions in October:
October 1- 12PM- Fahs Theater
October 22- 12PM- Channing Hall

The sessions will focus on bringing yourself up to speed about the growing threats against trans youth and other queer people, as well as interactive Q&A on how to most effectively live your principles, defending all our siblings in the Beloved Community. ~Emma Moore
This is a congregation of open minds,  
Of helping hands.  
And of loving hearts.  
Together we care for our earth  
And work for friendship and peace in the world.

Our Eight Principles of Unitarian Universalism

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part;
- Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse, multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

Water for the Garden, Music for the Soul
A concert to Support Our Memorial Garden
Suggested Donation: $20

September 17, 2023
4:00 p.m. in Channing Hall

Nurture both the garden and the soul, by attending a concert to benefit the Memorial Garden Watering Fund. This will raise money to bring water to the Memorial Garden. A program of beautiful music will be presented by our own local talent, including Courtney Orlando, Mary Schmidt and Jo Ellen Burton and others. Refreshments will be served after the performance. More details to follow. Questions, contact Vicky Campbell, 609-731-0753.

The Memorial Garden: A Place for Us All to Cherish and Support

The Memorial Garden at UU Princeton is a labor of love that was created, nurtured and expanded over many decades. Since the 1960s, when it was first designed, the garden has become a treasured place of beauty and peace only as a result of the vision and efforts of many who have come before us. A rock placed here and a shrub planted there. A meandering path added as a way to take a contemplative walk through the rows of flowers, shrubs and memorial trees. Someone thought a couple of sculptures might enhance the beauty of the garden. And this year, two benches were added. Recently, someone came up with the idea to move the memorial name plates over to the Memorial Wall to create an unobstructed view of the gardens. Great ideas have built upon one another as our garden has grown.

NOW is our time to be good stewards of the Memorial Garden. Our Garden Keepers are putting new energy into improving and expanding the garden so that it can be enjoyed now and for many generations to come. Our current project is to bring life-giving water to the Memorial Garden. This will help us - and those who come after us - to maintain our gardens with more ease and protect the health of our beautiful plants and trees during the dry spells. It will also save the backs of our gardening volunteers who are currently lugging heavy hoses out to the Memorial Garden. As we do our part to support and sustain this treasure, let's be grateful to those who have contributed to the space in the past as well as those who are nurturing it now and in the future.

"A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit." - Greek Proverb

~Vicky Campbell

Photo courtesy of Elaine Nigam
Caring for Our Neighbors Ministry

Join us for hand-on projects that help hunger and homelessness prevention in Mercer County. Contact Louise Senior at Caring4Neighbors@uuprinceton.org if you’d like to pitch in! You can always bring shelf-stable, in date, unopened food to our Giving Table in Robinson Lounge. Contact Jody Maher at JodyM1025@gmail.com if you’d like to help deliver food to Arm in Arm.

To help, we have decided to resume our in-church drop-off collection table for food donation in Robinson Lounge at UUCP.

Here are suggested items, with the greatest need for the top three. *No glass containers, please. Be sure to check expiration dates.*

* Canned low-fructose fruit
* Canned low-sodium vegetables
* Canned tuna, salmon, chicken or chili
* Canned beans or 1 lb. bag dried beans
* Canned potatoes
* Cold cereal
* Hot cereal
* Shelf-stable milk
* Honey (plastic container)
* Olive and canola oil (plastic container)
* Herbs and spices (plastic container)

Any questions, contact Jody Maher at JodyM1025@gmail.com.

Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need.

CELEBRATIONS

The Celebrations Ministry would like to thank everyone for participating in our survey (if you have not done so already - here is the link — https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQrGj1gPt1889HQQqOtHFucTXu0JXc bYMIKAt7sRv6wYA/viewform? ve=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&usp=mail_form_link) Your input is being used to determine our programs for the 2023/24 church year and will be communicated in the coming weeks.

If you would like to join our team as a core member - or would like to be contacted as a possible volunteer… please reach out via email in the coming weeks at celebrations@uuprinceton.org.

~Susan Griffin
Land Acknowledgement
The land and waterways upon which the congregants of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton gather and live are the ancestral and unceded Lenapehoking territory of the Lenni-Lenape nation. We honor the contributions of their ancestors, those now in the diaspora, and the Nanticoke Lenni -Lenape, Ramapough Lenape and Powhatan Renape who continue to live in the area we call New Jersey. We pledge to work with them to dismantle the legacy of oppression of Indigenous Peoples and to live in harmony.

(Worship Services continued from page 1)

October 1, at 10:30 a.m.
Live in Channing Hall and
Live-streamed on Zoom
This I Know

What do you know for certain? How can you know it’s true? What do our collective answers to those questions say about the Unitarian Universalist faith?

Guest Worship Leader: Rev. Charles Loflin,
executive Director of UU Faith Action, NJ

UU PRINCETON HISTORY - by Carl Haag

UU REFLECTIONS - The last article explored Lyman Spitzer's far reaching idea of putting a large telescope in space. This led to the Hubble space telescope and its fascinating findings.

When asked by his children "What were you doing today, Daddy?" Lyman Spitzer would reply, "I was thinking what I would do if I were an electron." In thinking like an electron or his scientific self, he knew that both plasma physics and stellar dynamics had a set of effects produced by two-body encounters between particles whose mutual force varies as the inverse square of their separation. This connection was made from his work on the evaporation of stars from globular clusters.

Then in 1951 Lyman Spitzer made another stellar connection. It occurred when he and his wife spent time on a ski-lift in Aspen. It was stimulated by an announcement by the Argentines that they "had successfully achieved a controlled thermonuclear reaction in a laboratory." What he was wrestling with was how extremely hot thermonuclear plasma might be confined in a way that it would not touch, and melt, walls. He came up with the possibility of using magnetic confinement, working out the details back in Princeton, he says, "mostly in bed during the middle of the night."

The AEC was interested enough in his proposal that they funded a small experimental project. Later, to obtain additional support for the promising program, Dr. Spitzer had to attract a distinguished experimental scientist to head the controlled fusion program. James Van Allen (for whom the "Van Allen belts" outside the earth's atmosphere are named) agreed to head up the work in Princeton. The dream for fusion energy was nothing less than supplying a virtually unlimited power supply for humans.

Lyman Spitzer contributed directly to the work of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory for 15 years before retiring in 1966. The work has continued and expanded into a $10 billion dollar international fusion project. The plan to harness the power of the sun--fusion energy--requires the heating of two forms of hydrogen to millions of degrees as they are compressed by magnetic fields.

A new Tokamak machine looking like a 52 foot doughnut is designed to reach the flash point where a self-sustained nuclear burn would take place and give off more energy than it took to ignite it. It would do so without the dangers and nuclear waste disposal problems of the current atomic power plants based on fission, the splitting of atoms. Unlike the success of the Hubble telescope years ago, the idea Spitzer worked on sailing through the air on the Aspen chairlift has only recently been realized for a moment will take decades more work. However, the brilliance of both of Lyman Spitzer's concepts is spectacularly evident.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton Relational Covenant
Our covenant affirms a commitment to build loving, healthy, and trusting relationships within our congregation. We make these promises in order to love better, relate more compassionately, and feel the power of our human connections.

Our Promises:
- We warmly welcome all.
- We speak with honesty, respect, and compassion.
- We listen attentively.
- We express gratitude for the service of others.
- We honor and support one another in our spiritual journeys and in times of joy, need, and struggle.
- We embrace our diversity and the opportunity to share our different perspectives.
- We address our disagreements directly and openly, and see conflict through to an authentic resolution.
- We serve our spiritual community with generosity and joy.
- We strive to keep these promises, but when we fall short, we forgive ourselves and others, and begin again in love.

UU REFLECTIONS - The last article explored Lyman Spitzer's far reaching idea of putting a large telescope in space. This led to the Hubble space telescope and its fascinating findings.

When asked by his children "What were you doing today, Daddy?" Lyman Spitzer would reply, "I was thinking what I would do if I were an electron." In thinking like an electron or his scientific self, he knew that both plasma physics and stellar dynamics had a set of effects produced by two-body encounters between particles whose mutual force varies as the inverse square of their separation. This connection was made from his work on the evaporation of stars from globular clusters.

Then in 1951 Lyman Spitzer made another stellar connection. It occurred when he and his wife spent time on a ski-lift in Aspen. It was stimulated by an announcement by the Argentines that they "had successfully achieved a controlled thermonuclear reaction in a laboratory." What he was wrestling with was how extremely hot thermonuclear plasma might be confined in a way that it would not touch, and melt, walls. He came up with the possibility of using magnetic confinement, working out the details back in Princeton, he says, "mostly in bed during the middle of the night."

The AEC was interested enough in his proposal that they funded a small experimental project. Later, to obtain additional support for the promising program, Dr. Spitzer had to attract a distinguished experimental scientist to head the controlled fusion program. James Van Allen (for whom the "Van Allen belts" outside the earth's atmosphere are named) agreed to head up the work in Princeton. The dream for fusion energy was nothing less than supplying a virtually unlimited power supply for humans.

Lyman Spitzer contributed directly to the work of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory for 15 years before retiring in 1966. The work has continued and expanded into a $10 billion dollar international fusion project. The plan to harness the power of the sun--fusion energy--requires the heating of two forms of hydrogen to millions of degrees as they are compressed by magnetic fields.

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Save the date: Our October 19th lunch will feature Rev. Janet Macgregor-Williams describing her 4,000-mile trip below the Mason-Dixon line following the Civil Rights Trail.

Great Books Discussion
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. in Room 7

Schedule for 2023-2024
September 10, Birnam Wood by Eleanor Catton
November 12, Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom by Ilyon Woo
January 7, The Burger's Daughter by Nadine Gordimer
March 10, Dead Wake: The Crossing of the Lusitania by Erik Larson
May 19, Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

Happy Reading!
Contact peggy.matthews@gmail.com if you have questions.

Young Adult Groups (ages 18-27 and 28-40)
Interested in meeting other young adults within the UUCP community?
Jenna Finan Kelly (Jenna.finank@gmail.com) and Emma Moore (emoore42@gmail.com) are working on developing connections for fellowship, activism, and fun! Email us any time, or come introduce yourself after Sunday service.

Princeton Eats Plants
Contact Vicky Campbell
vcampbell@callawayhenderson.com

Buddhist Meditation Group
UU Princeton's Buddhist meditation group meets in-person in the John Murray Room from 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, and at 4:00 pm on Sunday for check-in and meditation on Zoom. Whether you are a beginning or experienced meditator, all are welcome! Please contact Michele Ochsner (michele.ochsner@gmail.com) to receive weekly email reminders and zoom link.

CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) Evergreen Chapter meets monthly and quarterly.
For more information about CUUPS events, please reach out to Herb Foster at herb_foster@yahoo.com to join the Evergreen CUUPS mailing list, or to Jennifer Santos at jsantoscnm@verizon.net or Kate Foster, Co-Convenors, with questions.
Meeting with the Ministers
Rev. Bill and/or Rev. Jennifer are happy to meet with you individually at church, for lunch, over coffee, etc., at a time that works for everyone. Please email either of them to make an appointment.

bill@uuprinceton.org
jennifer@uuprinceton.org

In the event of emergencies needing the attention of a minister, please contact Rev. Bill by phone or email first. If necessary, then contact Lauren Foss, President of the Board of Trustees, at president@uuprinceton.org

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