



May Services

May 5, 10:30 am — *Reverend Kim Wilson*

“Spiritual Tools for Tough Times”

There are so many worrying things going on in the world, our country and in our own communities, that it can sometimes become depressing or overwhelming. Rev. Kim offers some thoughts on how to find wholeness and a balance between our care and concern, and our well-being and spiritual health.

Reverend Kim D. Wilson currently serves the UU Fellowship of the Poconos in Stroudsburg, PA and the Schuylkill UUs in Pottsville, PA. She obtained her Master of Divinity degree from Moravian Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, PA and was ordained in 2001. Reverend Kim and her spouse Jean live in an old Victorian house in historic Bethlehem. She has two grown children, and when she’s not engaged in ministry, Reverend Kim enjoys yoga, gardening, art and genealogy.

May 12, 10:30 am

— *R.E. Coming of Age & Youth with Angela Konin, DRE*

Families Come in All Shapes and Sizes

According to writer Andrews Solomon, “Love is not a finite asset, and...caregiving involves more than a genetic imperative.” Join us on this special day as R.E. youth lead our service in which we will celebrate mothers and the diversity of families. Additionally on this day we welcome the Coming of Age youth in sharing about where they are in their faith journeys, and celebrate their transitions from childhood.

Angela Konin has been a UU for about 5 years and is in her second church year at UUFLB as Director of Religious Exploration. In addition to running the RE program, Angela has been instrumental in creating wonderful, multi-generational community services for us once each month since September. She puts forth great effort to make each of these events a positive experience for old and young alike. Angela is a wonderful addition to our UUFLB family.



May 19 is the Last Sunday before summer intermission

May 19, 10:30 am — *Angela Konin, DRE & Amanda Geist*

“Bridging Ceremony and Flower Communion”

This special service features our Bridging Ceremony, which marks the transition from childhood to young adulthood. The ceremony recognizes, honors, and celebrates the youth who are graduating from our religious education program as they enter a new phase of their lives. Additionally on this day, we will hold our annual Flower Communion, a uniquely Unitarian ritual that dates back to the 1920’s. You are invited to bring a flower or branch of greenery, which will be assembled into a bouquet that symbolizes the beauty that we create when we all come together. And then, as we leave, we will each take away a different flower than the one we brought, to remind us that we both give and receive gifts from this community. If your garden is abundant, please bring a few extra blossoms for those who have none to bring!

May 26 — No Service — Start of Summer intermission.

Formal services at Pen Ryn School to resume the Sunday after Labor Day, September 8.



What’s Up With Worship?

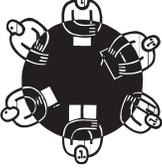
We will continue with the monthly Touchstones. This year’s overarching theme is “Let Your Life Speak” and our monthly themes will encourage you to listen to your life as a way of shaping your days and guiding your personal journey.

We are excited to share the May sermon topic of “Mystery” which is the next building block and a great way to end our church year at Pen Ryn. From our Touchstones summary: “Our lives are not merely a series of questions to be answered or problems to be solved, but mysteries to be lived”.

Sherri Crisenbery, Worship Team Leader

Our Vision

UUFLB supports spiritual, intellectual and emotional growth in a diverse congregation of all ages and beliefs. We reach out to everyone with love and acceptance to better ourselves and the world.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 2019			1	2	3 7:00 pm First Friday Fun Night 	4
5 "Spiritual Tools for Tough Times" Rev. Kim Wilson Teacher Appreciation Annual Meeting Perennial Plant Sale Make Parade Signs RE Mtg 12-12:45 Family Services Breakfast 7-8:30 am	6 7:30-9 pm Board Meeting 	7 7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting 	8 7:00 pm We Care Team Meeting 	9	10 SUMMER Newsletter DEADLINE	11
12 "Families Come in All Shapes and Sizes" R.E. Coming of Age and Youth with Angela Konin, DRE MOTHER'S DAY	13	14	15	16	17 7:30 pm Book Discussion "Blindness" by Jose Saramago 	18 10:00 am Greater Philly Cluster Mtg @ Fellowship Center New Hope Pride Parade  FULL MOON
19 "Bridging Ceremony and Flower Communion" Angela Konin, DRE and Amanda Geist Congregation Photo Family Services Breakfast 7-8:30 am	20	21 6:30 pm Leaders Council Meeting	22	23	24	25
26 No Service	27	28	29	30	31	Formal Services resume at Pen Ryn School Sunday, September 8
	Looking at Summer... June 23 – Coffee & Conversation at the Fellowship Center July 22 – Coffee & Conversation at the Fellowship Center August 25 – End of Summer Picnic with the Fellowship at Silver Lake					
	MEMORIAL DAY					

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Lower Bucks

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Vice President: Andrew Pudzianowski
Treasurer: Suzanne Brunnengraber
Mary Beth Hartman and Janet Kelly
Contact: trustees@uuflb.org

Worship Services
Pen Ryn School
235 South Olds Blvd.
Fairless Hills, PA 19030
10:30am Sunday
Sept. to mid-June



We Care and the Caring Committee

Serenity Garden Planting and Garden Adventure a Complete Success!

Our We Care outing went as planned on Saturday, April 6 to help Livengrin clean up and prepare their Serenity Garden. We pitched and spread mulch, planted flowers, dredged and prepared a pond, and helped with some hard landscaping (stone and bricks). UU's from 8 to 80 + helped out. When we left the Serenity Garden the area appeared transformed. Well done to all the people who participated. Please enjoy the photos from the event.



So what is Livengrin anyway? From their website:

"Livengrin is the Philadelphia region's largest and most respected addiction treatment and rehab center offering a full range of detox, inpatient, outpatient and specialty services for drug, alcohol and other substance abuse dependencies."

While there, we were able to speak to many whose lives had been changed for the better because of Livengrin. It is good to know that this place exists in our region.

Split Plates goes to help the Rainbow Room

This is a support program for LGBTQA+ teens that is operated by Planned Parenthood in the Doylestown area. Rich Kelly visited their space in the past and found the area to be comfy, loving and safe. They now have a place on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pprainbowroom>. Check them out or better yet, like them.

From their website: "Our LGBTQA+ youth groups provide a safe, supportive and empowering environment for LGBTQA+ youth. In our programs, youth can be themselves and experience the freedom of knowing they are accepted totally and without reservation. Our weekly meetings facilitated by trained Planned Parenthood educators feature a blend of education, recreation and advocacy. Program topics include sexuality education, life skills, LGBTQA+ history, guest speakers, game nights and activities to promote health, wellness and a strong sense of

(Continued on page 4)



We Care and the Caring Committee *(Continued from page 3)*

belonging within LGBTQA+ communities and the world. Our programs are confidential, free and provide a space where LGBTQA+ youth can learn, build support networks and have fun.”

As of this writing, we have collected \$280 for the ICE detainees. We plan to use these funds to obtain needed items to the immigrant families detained at the Berks County Family Detention Center (ICE). For those interested, the address is 1040 Berks Road in Leesport, PA.



We also collected for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's Central American Migrant Justice (UUSC Initiative). Their focused strategy takes aim on three factors of the issue:

- The right to safety in Central America
- The right to safety on the migrant trail
- Human rights and the U.S. immigration system

“These three aspects are inextricably linked. As with all of our initiatives, we focus our grant-making and partner support on grassroots organizations working for systemic change.

We believe that connecting groups across the migrant trail from El Salvador to Mexico to the United States will create a strong movement centered on the rights of people, not borders.”

A total of \$325 was collected for this initiative through our split plate program. Many thanks for all those who participated.

During the month of April we collected for the Anti-human trafficking efforts of BCAT – Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking. This included a split plate collection and a special collection made during our annual Passover For Freedom Service. This service was a joyous time full of song, dancing, readings, and great food. (See photos on this page.)

Food Bank – Bring in a can, a bag, or cash

Please continue to bring in any non perishable foods. The Bristol Food Bank is located at 99 Wood Street, Bristol, PA 19007. Feel free to stop by and check it out. They know us very well there and appreciate all our donations.

We have instituted a bucket for any and all cash contributions. With the money that goes in the bucket, we will purchase food using Giant cards purchased through the UUFLB. In this way the Fellowship benefits as well as the food bank. Everybody wins if you throw something in the bucket! Many thanks for all that you do!

First and Third Sundays at the Homeless Shelter is “The Breakfast Club”!

The Breakfast Club is the only group to provide hot breakfasts at the shelter. We do this 2 times a month on the first and third Sunday every month if enough people sign up. It takes 3 to 4 people to make this work. We make delicious breakfasts usually including pancakes, breakfast meat, and 2 types of eggs. Fresh fruit is also available. Come join the crew. Our meals are always appreciated and we have a great time!

Interested in becoming a volunteer? See Bernie Griga or Rich Kelly for more information. The homeless shelter is run by

Family Services of Bucks County. <http://www.fsabc.org/>

The We Care Team:

Kathleen Dorian, Bill Appleton, Bernie Griga, Amanda Geiss, and Rich Kelly with Janet Kelly as board liaison.

Have an idea or a cause to pursue or just want to attend our meetings? Contact Rich Kelly or Bernie Griga if you have questions or comments, or if you wish to volunteer or come to a meeting. New participants are always welcome.

Rich Kelly, We Care Team Leader



Brick by Brick

The Hungarian word *Unitarius* first appeared in print in 1600. The English translation Unitarian first appeared in 1673. The first Unitarians used reason to argue that the Trinitarian formulation of God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and, God the Holy spirit was not logical. Jesus was a great human being, but not God. The word Universalist appeared in England around 1750 and was brought to America in 1770.

The first Universalists believed in universal salvation – God loves us all and therefore all of us will go to heaven when we die. The American Unitarians and Universalists merged in 1961 to form the Unitarian Universalist Association. Today, using reason and love remains the core of our religion.*



Our Fellowship was formed in 1965 when a small group of members from the Trenton Unitarian church formed the Lower Bucks Fellowship (Unitarian Universalist) and began meeting in rented spaces and hiring speakers.

Fellowships were encouraged by the UUA at that time when most mainline churches were losing members. I don't know how many of those original Fellowships still exist as they were originally begun. Some have become full churches with their own buildings and ministers, but many others have closed.

I certainly want to see this Fellowship go on to become bigger and better. I want us to strive for a building with a full staff. We can only do that with everyone's help. If you have not yet joined Deepening Our Roots, NOW IS THE TIME. Just sign the green form located at the Greeters' table to decide how much you would like to give on a regular basis.

Would you like to pay tribute to someone or honor a friend? You can make a one-time donation by putting "building fund" on the memo line of your check and noting why you are giving the contribution. We'll make sure to thank you in this column.

This month we'd like to thank Marsha and David Caldwell for their contribution in memory of Dave Stough, and Nancy Lesh and Bill Stroup for their contribution in memory of Felice Macera's mother.

Nancy Lesh, Building Team

*from *The Unitarian Universalist Church in Sarasota*
Order of Service for March 3, 2019

Adult Enrichment



First Friday Fun Night:
Friday, May 3, 7:00 pm



Book Discussion: Friday, May 17,
7:30 pm *Blindness* by Jose Saramago



Book Discussion: Friday, June 21,
7:30 pm *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith



No Book Discussion in August

All activities take place at the Fellowship Center unless otherwise noted.

Important: Call the host/hostess or the Fellowship Center to be included in the above activities. Remember that each host, hostess, or activity coordinator has taken time preparing for these events. If your plans change and you cannot attend, please call as early as you can to cancel. Thank you.

Spring



*It rains pink outside my door
Little flakes flutter to the ground.
A pink carpet appears.
Can anything be more simple
and serene
and beautiful?
It holds beauty in its purest form
fragile, ethereal, available to all
but never to be possessed.
Let it infuse my heart
Let its ineffable scent reach
into my deeper self.
I am in communion with the petals
of the plum tree outside my door.
It rains pink and I feel
blessed and complete.*

— Arlette Rosen

We welcome your newsletter submissions!

The Summer Fellowship News deadline is Friday, May 10. If you'd like your article, announcement, or other written work to appear in the Summer newsletter, please e-mail your submission by Friday, May 10. If you have any questions, please see Priscilla Applegate or e-mail: newsletter@uuflb.org



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Lower Bucks
Penn's Square, Suite 308
404 Middletown Blvd.
Langhorne, PA 19047
www.uuflb.org

Sunday Service is 10:30 a.m.
at Pen Ryn School
235 South Olds Blvd.
Fairless Hills, PA

September through May

Childcare and Youth Religious
Education are provided.

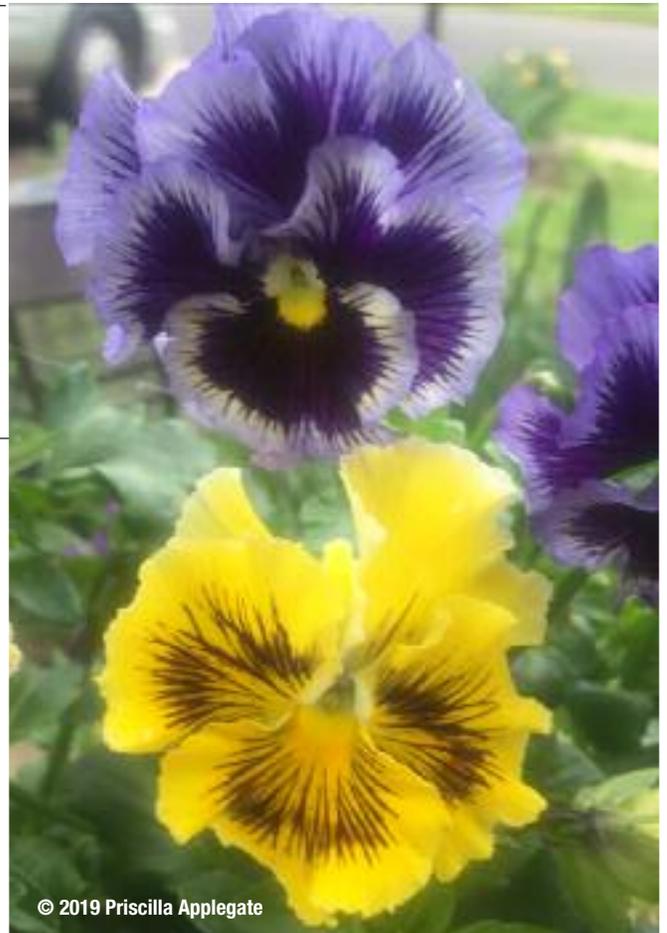
For address corrections, additions or deletions,
please call the Fellowship Center: 215-752-5689

Our Mission

UUFLB provides dynamic services, relevant lifespan
Religious Education, and effective and focused
community outreach in an atmosphere that respects
the individual and supports the community at large.

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