



# THE DRUMMER

November 2017

Life's like a movie, write your own ending. Keep believing, keep pretending.

--Jim Henson

## In this issue...

Sunday Services

Minister's Notes

Religious Education

Chips from the Board

News, Events, & Other Stuff

## Quick Links

- [UUCSH Website](#)
- [Minister and Staff](#)
- [Board of Trustees](#)
- [RE Calendar](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Sunnyhill Resource Guide](#)
- [Click Amazon button to shop and earn \\$\\$ for Sunnyhill!](#)
- [Submit to The Beat!](#)
- [LifeCraft Schedule](#)
- [UUA](#)
- [OMD](#)
- [UUSC](#)



**LGBTQ**

Welcoming Congregation



You shop. Amazon gives.



## Sunday Services in October

### Nov. 5, 10:00 a.m. When Your Head and Heart Disagree. Josh Broaded.

We will be exploring how diversity in religious traditions, and how conflicting ideas within our own minds, can create greater compassion and understanding for people with whom we may disagree. *Josh took part in a year-long sermon writing class facilitated by Rev. Jim, and this sermon is a result of that class. The designated offering for this Sunday will benefit Planned Parenthood.*

### Nov. 12, 10:00 a.m. How Is Church Different from a Restaurant? Rev. Jim Magaw.

While churches share some things in common with commercial enterprises, there are also some fundamental differences. What are the similarities and differences and why are they important to us as members of a religious community?

### Nov. 19, 10:00 a.m. The Promise and the Practice of Our Faith. Rev. Jim Magaw.

This service is our opportunity to address our own religious tradition's history of upholding racism and systems of white supremacy. Together, we can collectively work to dismantle it and amend a long-broken promise to the black lives within our association. *The designated offering this Sunday will benefit Black Lives of UU.*

### Nov. 26, 10:00 a.m. Thanks, But No Thanks: Freedom and Discipline. Jay Abernathy.

"I am convinced that freedom is not a 'right' but a goal and a challenge. We are not thankful for freedom this holiday, but grateful for the opportunity to strive toward freedom. Religion is one discipline for obtaining freedom, perhaps the most important, as one of our saints, 'William Ellery Channing, taught 150 years ago."

## Minister's Notes Rev. Jim Magaw

Transformation requires loss. Transformative change simply cannot occur unless something is left behind-whether it's an old way of relating to the world, or beloved friends, or a hometown, or a cherished home.

But leaving the old things behind does not mean closing our hearts to them-such a thing isn't really possible, even though it might seem more desirable than experiencing loss.

What's required is not only a turning away from something and a turning toward something else, but also a willingness to feel both in their entirety and to be truly changed by the experience.

We grieve not so much to "get over" something but rather to let ourselves be softened by the experience. For it is through this process of opening and softening that we are truly transformed.

Writing about the experience of the death of a loved one, Anne Lamott said: "It's like having a broken leg that never heals perfectly-that still hurts when the weather gets cold, but you learn to dance with the limp."

So it is with any big loss: Either we learn to dance with the limp or we stop dancing altogether. And it is only through this kind of dancing that we are transformed.

As we go through changes in our lives-whether they are personal changes or changes in our church community-there will inevitably be feelings of loss. Even when we are wildly enthusiastic about what we are doing and where we are headed, we are bound to experience loss.

May we be open to loss as a means for fully experiencing our lives and for forever turning toward what is next.

*--Rev. Jim Magaw*

## Religious Education Jennifer McGlothin, Director of Religious Education





Chips from the Board

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, October 10, 2017.

- All Board Members participated in a Board Retreat on Saturday Oct 7th, centered on developing a Board Covenant and Priorities for 2017-18.
- Rental/Building Use Policy was discussed again, Mark and Sara agreed to take point on gathering data from area churches and consolidating for discussion during Nov. meeting.
- Pumpkin Patch is full speed ahead!!! Arriving on Sat Oct 14th to kickoff this amazing community event and fundraiser through Halloween; Huge thanks to Janie Elliott for making this possible.
- Loan update: \$25K on additional funds for final punch list will be structured internally through loan/loans from members of the congregation.
- Approved providing facilities for U.U. District Youth Advisors Conference next Fall.
- Board voted to support anti-discrimination ordinance currently before Mt. Lebanon Board; Josh will attend next Commissioners, meeting to provide comments supporting on behalf of the board.

--Mark Mortimer, Board Member

Members are welcome to attend UUCSH board meetings. If you have an issue you want to bring to the board's attention at the monthly meeting, please contact Sibyl McNulty at [president@sunnyhill.org](mailto:president@sunnyhill.org) to be added to the agenda. Request the board agenda and minutes from the church administrator at [admin@sunnyhill.org](mailto:admin@sunnyhill.org) or contact Janie Elliott, Secretary at [board@sunnyhill.org](mailto:board@sunnyhill.org). Board meetings for the 2017-18 church year will be the second Tuesday of the month. The next board meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 14, at 7pm, at Sunnyhill.**

## News From the Caring Committee

The Caring Committee is here to help. Do you know someone who could use some TLC?

The Caring Committee would like the congregation to play a role in our work by making referrals to us. Please let us know if you or a Sunnyhill Member or Friend might benefit from one of our services. If you are unsure if a person would be receptive, simply ask if it is all right to share information with the Caring Committee co-chairs.

To reach us, you can send an email to [caring@sunnyhill.org](mailto:caring@sunnyhill.org) or call (Margo: 201-874-7127; Katy: 412-851-0878). Email sent to this address is seen only by the co-chairs.

Caring Committee activities include:

- Offering transportation to appointments or to Sunnyhill events
- Providing meals for a few days or a week after an illness or injury or after a child arrives
- Helping with light chores
- Ensuring visits to homebound or hospitalized Members or Friends
- Acknowledging joys and sorrows with cards, caring pillows, or baby blankets
- Providing Memorial Service hospitality

Through the Diane Nedved Fund, we can provide financial assistance to those Sunnyhill events that might charge a participation fee. If there is a greater financial need, we will contact Rev. Jim. Through the Minister's Discretionary Fund, Sunnyhill's minister can assess needs and make a monetary gift.

We are here. And we have a team of volunteers ready to help.

--Margo Petro  
--Katy Vernacchia  
Co-chairs, Caring Committee

## News, Events, and Other Stuff

### Sunnyhill Book Group

The Sunnyhill Book Group will meet at Sunnyhill on **Monday, November 20 at 7:30** to discuss *Hillbilly Elegy* by J. D. Vance. Everyone is welcome. For further information, please contact Dean Hazelton, at [dhazelton44@verizon.net](mailto:dhazelton44@verizon.net).

**2017 Annual Assembly of the Unitarian Universalists of Greater Pittsburgh**

Join fellow Unitarian Universalists for a day of camaraderie, connection, and collaboration!  
**Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 9am-3pm** at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills. The registration fee is \$20 and includes lunch. Registration opens **October 5**. Everyone welcome! Child care available. You do not need to be a Unitarian Universalist or a member of a Unitarian Universalist congregation to attend. More info: <http://uupittsburgh.org/assembly>.

**Save the Date: One World Returns on Sat. December 9<sup>th</sup>!**

Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual One World Celebration on Saturday, **December 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-8:00** at *Sunnyhill*! Now in its 7<sup>th</sup> year, this fun-filled intergenerational evening is a culmination of our traditional holiday activities along with many fabulous new ones. Fun and surprises are promised for all including our Gallery of Giving, crafts for the children, social justice outreach opportunities, holiday caroling, and an appearance by our very own Sunnyhill Santa who will ask the children what they will **give** this holiday. Please feel free to pull-out your favorite recipe of soup or chili and bring a crockpot-full to share. The focus is on *giving* instead of *receiving*, as our consumer-oriented society would like us to believe. Our Social Justice partners will be featured, many with an opportunity on how to give during the holidays and throughout the year. Stay tuned for more details, but mark your calendars NOW! Want to help? Have questions? Need to know more? Email [OneWorld@sunnyhill.org](mailto:OneWorld@sunnyhill.org) (Elizabeth Mortimer, Cori Viperman and Jen McGlothin).

*The Drummer* is published monthly. Submit copy and photos to the editor, Michael Farb, via email to [drummer@sunnyhill.org](mailto:drummer@sunnyhill.org) by the 15th of each month. If you don't have email, please call the office at 412-561-6277. We will be happy to have copies mailed to you. To be removed from the e-mail distribution list or to submit an e-mail address change, please send request to [admin@sunnyhill.org](mailto:admin@sunnyhill.org).

Unitarian Universalist Church of S. Hills, 1240 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [admin@sunnyhill.org](mailto:admin@sunnyhill.org) in collaboration with

**Constant Contact** 

Try it free today