

ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER



Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814-4099

Lee McNair, *president*

April 2018

Leslie Backus, *editor*

The Alliance of Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church is an affiliate member of the church open to all interested women and men. Its purpose is to promote programs and activities of a cultural and community nature that support Unitarian Universalist principles. In furtherance of these purposes the Alliance raises its own funds and establishes its own budget.

Alliance Day Thursday, April 12, 2018

The Schedule for Alliance Day

- 11:30 a.m.** A relaxed time for socializing
- 12 noon** Potluck lunch. Please bring a main dish, salads, sides or desserts to serve eight. Please identify ingredients for those who are vegan/vegetarians or have allergies (e.g. meat, nuts, wheat, dairy). Please don't bring serving utensils.
- 1 p.m.** Program

Volunteer Assignments:

- Set-Up:** 10:30 Don Woodruff
Lee McNair
- Greeter:** 11:30 Dottie Mara
- Curb Assistant:** Wayne Mara
- Receiving Food:** 11:45 Terry Tretter
- Clean-Up:** 12:45 Laura Sailer
- Tables:** Jean Schaible
- Serving Tables:** 12:45 Marion Torchia
- Tablecloths:** Joe Merenda
Leslie Backus
- Bartender:** 11:00 Barbara Ricketts
- Flowers:** Sue Woodruff
Diane Mahlmoood

May Newsletter Deadline-The deadline for the May newsletter is Tuesday, April 24th. Please send any items to Leslie Backus at backusle@verizon.net.

President's Message

"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote EXCEPT the American people themselves and...they [can] only do this...by **not voting.**"
Franklin D. Roosevelt

"Majority rule only works if you're also considering individual rights. Because you can't have five wolves and one sheep voting on what to have for dinner."
Larry Flint

"The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by [humans] for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison [people] because they are different from other [people]."

Lyndon B. Johnson

**Maryland primary = June 26, 2018; Maryland gubernatorial/U.S. midterms = November 6, 2018.
IF NOT US, WHO? IF NOT NOW, WHEN?**

Lee McNair, President



April Program: 'Our Solar System: From Birth to Death'

Lou Mayo, planetary scientist and program manager for the NASA/Goddard Space Science Education consortium will discuss the formation

and evolution of our solar system at the midpoint of its 10 billion year life cycle. The planetary systems around our sun have formed and evolved over time driven by many forces including gravity, light and heat, electricity, and magnetism.

From these forces and their interactions, a diverse solar system has formed. This talk will trace the formation and evolution of the solar system, trying to uncover the processes resulting in its enormous diversity. Lou also teaches astronomy 101 at Marymount University and runs a non-profit dedicated to astronomy education. He led NASA's program to bring the 2017 eclipse to the country and served on the Voyager and Cassini IR instrument teams. *Mike Harris*



May Program Al Carr, MD district 18 delegate, will review the 2018 legislative session

Mike Harris

Alliance Bridge Tuesdays 10 a.m. to Noon in the Lounge

All bridge players are welcome for casual party bridge! No partner needed. Chicago Scoring. Cost \$3.

Marilyn Hathaway & Mary Beth Nowinski



First Friday Book Club – 11 a.m. in Rooms 1 & 2

The First Friday Book Club welcomes old friends and new. Anyone who is interested in discussing books is welcome! Bring a sandwich and socialize over refreshments at noon.

April 6: (The) **Summer Before the War** by Helen Simpson (2016), pp. 496. **Fiction.** Anglophiles mourning the end of Downton Abby will enjoy this novel that begins in pre-World War I England and deftly observes the effect of war on the staid Edwardian sensibilities regarding gender, money and class. Refreshments: Rita Pittillo & Bonnie Tyler

May 4: **LaRose** by Louise Erdrich (2016), pp. 384. **Fiction** On an Ojibwa reservation, a man stalks a deer on the land that borders his and his neighbor's. He takes aim and hits it. As he moves closer, he realizes he has actually killed his neighbor's five-year-old son. Refreshments: Patricia Spencer

Barbara Lewis

Do You Drive Yourself to Our Luncheons? We have learned that some Alliance members miss our luncheons because they lack transportation. Would you be willing to bring a passenger once or twice during the year? If yes, please sign up on our monthly volunteer list when it comes around to your table at our luncheon. Under **TRANSPORTATION**, please provide your name, telephone number, and general area. For example: Jane Doe (123) 456-7890 *downtown* Silver Spring. We'll contact you when someone in your neighborhood needs a ride.

Sue Woodruff

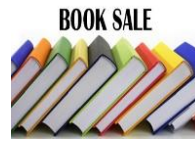
Fourth Thursday Classic Film Series

The Alliance Film series group is currently on what we hope is a temporary hiatus. John Giovanelli, chair of the

group, is still recovering from a recent illness. If there is a film buff out there interested in taking over the leadership of the group, please contact Lee McNair at 240-645 7383 or Sue Woodruff at 301-948-2359.

Sue Woodruff

Alliance Book & Jewelry Sales



Sales are in the Lounge after both services. Book Corner sales will be April 1, 8, 22, and 29. Please leave book donations (gently used, no dictionaries/ textbooks, bagged or boxed, labeled 'Alliance') in the coat closet at the RE stairs. The Jewelry sale will be April 15. (Note: Dates may change, so check the Alliance Bulletin Board). Mark your calendars! Come and buy some bargains!



Helen Pechacek

Social Justice Donations Survey

Many thanks to all who turned in a completed Social Justice donation survey at the March luncheon. We received 28 responses with three recommendations on each. Our additional Social Justice donations for the remainder of this year will be from the list. The results were: Action in Montgomery 15, A Wider Circle 15, Beacon House 18, Rwenena Kids 11, U.U. Service Committee 9, U.U. Legislative Ministry of Md.6, Chalice Lighters 4, Partner Church 3, Crossway Community 2, Cornerstone Montgomery 1. While we will be guided by your responses, choosing charities that received the greatest support, we may give some money to one or two that received fewer than 10 votes. Again, we thank you for your input.

Sue Woodruff

Do You Drive? Senior Connections is looking for Volunteers

The Senior Connection is a non-profit created in 2003 when two nonprofits merged. They are the largest provider of free escorted transportation in the county, supported, in part, by MoCo Division of Aging & Disability. They are looking for more volunteer drivers to escort senior clients to appointments and to help with grocery shopping. Training opportunities include:

Wednesday, March 28 at 10 am and 7 pm
Wednesday, April 11 at 10 am
Wednesday, April 25 at 10 am and 7 pm
Wednesday, May 2 at 10 am
Wednesday, May 30 at 7 pm

Contact susan.girard@seniorconnectionmc.org.

Trainings are at the Holiday Park Senior Center. 3950 Ferrara Drive, Silver Spring. *Leslie Backus*