

# ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER



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

Lee McNair, *president*

January 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, January 11, 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).
- 1 p.m.** Program

### Volunteer Assignments:

- Set-Up:** 10:30 Patricia Martin  
Don Woodruff
- Greeter:** 11:30 Dottie Mara
- Curb Assistant:** Wayne Mara
- Receiving Food:** 11:45 Nancy Janssen
- Clean-Up:** 12:45 Helen Pechacek
- Tables:** Pat Phillips
- Serving Tables:** 12:45 TBD
- Tablecloths:** Joe Merenda  
Leslie Backus
- Bartender:** 11:00 Babzz Ricketts
- Flowers:** Sue Woodruff  
Diane Mahlmoor

**February Newsletter Deadline**-The deadline is Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Please send items or ideas to Leslie Backus at [backusle@mcpsmd.org](mailto:backusle@mcpsmd.org)

### President's Message:

*"It is not enough to be compassionate. You must act."* His Holiness, the Dalai Lama.

I hope everyone had a peaceful, happy December holiday time. As the New Year begins, let us resolve to practice acts of compassion and loving kindness individually each day. An accumulation of tiny acts of love can do amazing good in the world. Then together, let us resolve to commit our behavior, our thoughts, and our prayers towards creating justice, equity, serenity and joy for all people everywhere.

*Lee McNair, President*

### Program: Thurgood Marshall: A Trail-Blazing Civil Rights Victory in Montgomery County



In a little known civil rights case of 1937 Thurgood Marshall argued for and gained equal pay for our county's African American teachers. This case is often cited as a stepping-stone to the Supreme Court decision 17 years later declaring

'Separate but Equal' unconstitutional. Our presenter is Ralph Buglass. He is a member of the Montgomery County Historical Society's Speakers Bureau and a lifelong history buff. Ralph speaks frequently at community programs, educational events, and local and national conferences on the history of public education in Montgomery County, and in other counties in Maryland. His interest was sparked by being a volunteer docent for the past five years at a restored one-room schoolhouse in Little Bennet Regional Park in Montgomery County. A retired communications professional, he has a B.A. in American history from Cornell University and an M.A. in Journalism from American University.



*Mike Harris, Wayne & Dottie Mara*



**Alliance Bridge  
Tuesdays, 10 am to noon in  
the Library**

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.

**January 5: (The) History of Love** by Nicole Krauss  
(2005). pp. 272 **Fiction** In Nazi-occupied Poland, a  
young boy writes a book inspired by his love for a  
village girl named Alma. He loses the girl and the manu-  
script. In the 1950s, the book, claimed by another, is  
published in Chile.

Refreshments: Jean Shaible

**February 2: Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death,  
and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity** by Katherine Boo  
(2011), pp. 256 **Non-Fiction** A landmark work that tells  
the dramatic story of families striving toward a better  
life in one of the 21st century's great, unequal cities.

Refreshments: Mary Morse

**March 2: (The) Whistling Season** by Ivan Doig (2006),  
pp. 305. **Fiction** Paul Milliron, is charged with deciding  
the fate of his state's last scattered rural schools In the  
hours preceding his meeting to determine those  
schools' fate, he recalls when he was thirteen and  
attended his own one-room school in Marias Coulee.  
Refreshments: Jean Thompson

**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

*Barbara Lewis*

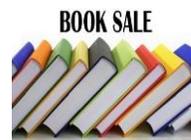
**Acknowledgements:**

Our annual December Holiday Luncheon went well.  
People shared stories—sad & funny—and the musical  
part of the program was quite enjoyable. I really want  
to thank Laura Sailer and Kate Harrison for  
volunteering their time and talent to sing. Also Kathie  
Bryant who did all the work, yet was unable to  
participate in the final production. Most of all, I really  
want to thank Susan Easterly. She is the consummate  
accompanist—solid, flexible—who patiently learns our  
music and provides the arrangements for the group  
carols. We could not do it without her!

*Leslie Backus*

**Alliance Book & Jewelry Sales**

The Alliance Book Corner will take place in the lounge



Jan 7, 14, and 28 after both  
services. Please stop by and find  
some great used books. Leave  
donations of used books in good

condition marked "Alliance" in the  
coat closet at the top of the stairs.



Jewelry sales will be January 21st.

Mark your calendars! Come and buy  
some bargains!

*Helen Pechacek*

**Fourth Thursday Classic Film Series—**

As of press time, we had not received information as  
to January's movie. Watch for notice  
through regular church channels or  
contact Andy Levchenko or John  
Giovannelli



**Diabetes Support Group**

Holiday Park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Dr., Wheaton,  
MD 20906

Wed, Jan 24, 12:30 – 1:30pm

Suburban Hospital's Nurse Mary Flynn serves as the  
Diabetes Support Group facilitator. Come share  
support, knowledge, and resources. Newcomers  
welcome.

**Membership Reminder!**

Welcome to the New Year with its promise of hope  
and a fulfilling life for each of us. I can't think of  
better fellow travelers than the Alliance folks. Please  
make sure we have your correct contact information  
for the January directory up-date and that you have  
paid your \$15/yr dues for 2017-2018--as a new or  
returning member. Looking forward to 2018 with  
you!

*Louise Stomierowski*