



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence  
**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**  
December 2017

**Mark Your Calendars!**  
**Upcoming Events and Important Dates Ahead\***

<b>Saturday, December 2</b>	9:00 a.m. <b>Men's Group at Munchers</b> 2:00 p.m. <b>Helen Gilles Memorial Service</b>
<b>Sundays, Dec 3, 17</b>	<b>Soul Matters Sharing Circles begin*</b>
<b>Saturday, December 9</b>	11:00-noon. <b>Second Saturday in Service for CASA*</b> 2:00-4:00 p.m. <b>Women's Group</b>
<b>Thursday, December 7</b>	(see below for time), <b>Executive Board Meeting*</b>
<b>Saturday, January 20</b>	9:30-3:00 <b>Workshop with consultant Rev. Lisa Presley*</b>

\*See body of newsletter for more information on all these upcoming events  
Please also note farther on the many **Social Justice** events and initiatives scheduled for December\*

**Second Saturdays in Service**

Please help make a child's Christmas merrier!

***Our Dec. 9 "Second Saturday in Service" will be filling Christmas stockings for kids represented by CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), and helping with gift cards for holiday meals.***

These children have been removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect and are in foster care. Some of you participated in this last year and it was much appreciated. There are a few stockings available and gift cards are desperately needed. Click here to sign up to fill one: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48aca92aabfd0-casa> If you would like to help with meals, please buy scrip gift cards for Hy-Vee or Checkers in the lobby and designate it for our service project. All are welcome to join from 11:00-Noon when we'll have hot chocolate and make simple snowflake ornaments for all the kids to go with their stockings.

**Guest-at-Your-Table Boxes**

to benefit the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee



If you haven't already picked up a UUSC "Guest-at-Your-Table" box from the bowl outside the sanctuary, please do so. Take it home, put some "small change" in it at mealtimes as you welcome your unseen guest, and **return the filled box on Sunday, December 17** so that it can be placed under the mitten tree in order to help make "big changes" in the world. There are also booklets about the Stories of Hope, emphasizing the four people/entities that are emphasized this year by the UU Service Committee for you to take home and read with your families.

## UPCOMING 9:30 SUNDAY TRADITIONAL PROGRAMS

**December 3:** *Dr. Sophia Khan from Kansas City* on the relationship of Abraham to Islamic religion.

As always, there will be time for questions and comments.

**December 10:** *A commemoration of the Dec. 10, 1961, dedication* of our schoolhouse as it became the home of the Lawrence Unitarian Fellowship. Members and Friends will celebrate and recreate portions of the original dedication.

**December 17:** *Our annual Mitten Tree Celebration* with children and adults decorating the Christmas Tree with mittens, hats, socks and scarves for children in need. Our UUSC "Guest-at-Our-Table" coin boxes will be returned and placed under the tree.

**December 24:** *Meditation Beads with Ann Alexander.* The word 'bead' is derived from the Anglo-Saxon bidden meaning "to pray." We will talk about the history of beads for spiritual practice and current bead use today. Bring your extra beads to create a "mala or pagan rosary" for your meditation practice.

**December 31:** *Champagne Breakfast.* Come with your children between 9:30 and 10:30 for bacon, eggs, muffins, orange juice [with or without bubbly stuff], quiche, bagels, and more. Everyone invited.

## 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP FOR NOVEMBER

### Worship Theme for November--

#### What Does It Mean To Be A People of Hope?

*Faith, wherever it develops into hope, causes not rest but unrest, not patience but impatience. It does not calm the unquiet heart, but is itself this unquiet heart in [all of us]. Those who hope...can no longer put up with reality as it is, but begin to suffer under it, to contradict it. [True hope] means conflict with the world, for the good of the promised future stabs inexorably into the flesh of every unfulfilled present."*

*Jürgen Moltmann, Theologian*



It's not always easy to hear well this time of year, especially when it comes to hope. The dominant messages are about hope offering us calm: "The light will come." "A new day is on its way." "Justice and joy are growing in the womb and will soon be born." Hope, from this point of view, is a voice that reassures. It's a welcomed whisper that says, "Yes, the sky may be dark now. Yes, the road you're on at this moment may be hard. But trust me, just over that horizon, there's a new world waiting for us all."

This soothing message comes to us as a gift. During dark days, we all get tired. The fruits of our efforts are hard to see. We feel alone. The promise that things will change offers us relief. We are released from the burden of believing that "it is all up to me" or that it all must be solved now.

It's a beautiful and needed message. But, as Moltmann and others remind us, it's also only half of what hope is trying to say. Hope doesn't just whisper "It *will* be different," it also shouts "It *should* be different" and "It *can* be different." Yes, it speaks soothing words about trusting and waiting, but it also takes the form of a holy impatience that declares, "Enough is enough. The time is now!" As Moltmann puts it, hope is not just that which calms the unquiet heart; it also *is* the unquiet heart.

In other words, hope doesn't just promise us that change will come in the future; it also changes who we are in the present. When we believe that a new day is dawning, we don't just sit down and wait. We get up and go out to meet the light. When hope convinces us that there are unseen forces working for the good, we begin to look around more closely, and in doing so we notice that darkness and pain are not all that is there. When hope's holy impatience gets into our bones, we start acting as if we deserve that new day now. Which in turn changes others by convincing them that we all have waited long enough.

Bottom line: listening fully to hope, makes you dangerous, not just soothed! It doesn't relieve us of duty as much as it reminds us that wind is at our back and unseen reinforcements are at our side. Yes, hope reassures, but it also emboldens. It doesn't just offer us a promise; it gives us a push.

But all of this only happens if we listen fully. So maybe the most important question this month is: "Are we listening to everything hope has to say?"

### **Worship Services for December**

**December 3**            *"Bring Your Broken Hallelujah"*

We all bring some broken dreams and long lost hopes on our journey toward wholeness. How do we pick up the pieces and reimagine the life-affirming world we dream of?

**December 10**        *"From Despair to Hope: Radical Reversal," Rev. Jonalu Johnstone with  
Worship Associate Rebecca Gant*

True hope, theologically speaking, runs much deeper than "I hope you have a happy holiday." Hope aims for more than a specific wish or simply glossing over troubles. We don't need hope when times are good. How, though, do we find it when we do need it -- in the depths of despair? Can we banish deep sadness and helplessness by rediscovering hope?

**December 17**        *"Sounds of the Season" Our choir's annual gift to the congregation*

**December 24**        *Multigenerational Christmas Pageant*

**Christmas Eve**     *Traditional Candlelight and Carols*

**December 31**        *Guest speaker Diane Silver on New Year, new attitude!*

### **MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR**

Dear Members and Friends of UUCL,

We have an important opportunity coming up, and we want to make sure you all know about it and make plans to attend. The Executive Board will host a workshop on Saturday, January 20, led by Rev. Lisa Presley, Congregational Life Consultant from the UUA's MidAmerica

Region, which will be the beginning of our quest to determine the future of our congregation. We hope you will take an active part in the process so you can consider all the options.

I'm sure you are wondering how things will go, so here is an outline:

We will gather at 9:30 with coffee and bagels.

At 10:00 am Rev. Lisa's presentation will discuss the current situation and name the divide; outline options for the congregation going forward (lay led, part-time ministry, full time ministry, interim ministry, or developmental ministry); talk about what will need to change if we opt for not having a minister; and what interim ministry is often about. She will let us know the timeline and how ministerial transitions happen. The most immediate decision the board will need to make will be about whether to seek an interim minister or to return to being lay-led. The bigger underlying questions are some of the decisions about who the congregation wants to be. There's a bifurcated sense of what the congregation should be about, that is often talked about as whether it should be the program or the worship. It's a bigger question of how to organize the congregation, whether to have ministerial services, the relationship of the early dreams of the congregation to the current dreams, and what we might want to be going forward. This will be followed by Q&A.

At noon, we will break for a potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to share.

From 1:00-3:00 pm, Rev. Lisa will lead us in guided exercises and sharing in small groups. Questions to consider might be: What do you appreciate most about the congregation? When have you felt most connected to what holds us close? What is your sense of spirit, soul, god, and your guiding principles? What would you miss the most if our congregation no longer existed?

No decisions will be made at that time as to the future. The purpose of this gathering is to have a chance to hear useful information as well as other people's perspectives. The process will continue in the months after the workshop in various ways as we work to determine what our course will be. If our path is to hire an interim minister to guide us through the next stage, the Board will submit our packet to the UUA Transitions office in March.

Please come and be a part of the process so you can help shape the future of UUCL. There is a signup sheet in the lobby. Childcare will be provided with a reservation.

We will keep the words of our mission in mind while we approach this period of discernment.

- We will LOVE: What would it look like to be part of a committed group of spiritual seekers who are determined to LOVE inclusively, cultivating empathy for other ways of being, making room for them, and learning from them?
- We will NUTURE: What would it look like to more intentionally NURTURE spiritual growth and connection for people of all ages – including raising generations of UUs who see themselves as part of a rich, centuries-old tradition of thinkers and activists and soul-nurturers?
- We will EXPLORE: What would it look like not only to EXPLORE life's big questions – but to do so freely, dropping our preconceived ideas and certainties and exploring together?

- And we will ACT: What would it look like to ACT for justice – beginning in our own hearts and minds, in our families and work, within the walls of this congregation, and then joining hands and joining forces with allies outside our walls to challenge and resist, to show up and speak up?

With Love, Hope and Peace,  
Shannon VanLandingham  
Executive Board Chair 2017-2018

## **MINISTER'S MUSINGS**

Rev. Jill Jarvis

And so, we wait. The days become shorter and colder, and a sense of anticipation sets in. Of course it's fitting that the Soul Matters theme for December is "Hope" -- the light will return, and all will be well.

Through this holiday season, UUCL also waits. Beginning in January we'll be entering a three-month period of deep discernment about the future of our congregation -- the deepest, and I believe most crucial, in UUCL's sixty-year history. Since last month when I informed you of my planned departure at the end of June, I've been deeply moved by your messages of love, sadness, concerns, regrets, and gratitude. But more than anything else, it's your many expressions of Hope that have affirmed my own. As our Soul Matters reading (see article in this issue, above) reminds us, "Hope doesn't just whisper 'it will be different'... Yes, it speaks soothing words about trusting and waiting, but it also takes the form of a holy impatience that declares, 'The time is now!'"

A few of you have described a sense of hopelessness that nothing will change. I understand. But know that there are also many members joyfully anticipating this discernment process with excitement about long-awaited possibilities. The glad tidings I bring to all of you is that yes, it's inevitable that there will be significant changes and a new direction. That will happen whether or not you choose to take part in the process. But I hope you'll want to be part of this historic moment, because the future of UUCL is in your hands! And this is where this month's Soul Matters message is particularly relevant: "When hope's holy impatience gets into our bones, we start acting as if we deserve that new day now. Which in turn changes others by convincing them that we all have waited long enough...Yes, hope reassures, but it also emboldens. It doesn't just offer us a promise; it gives us a push."

And most importantly: "But all of this only happens if we listen fully. Are we listening fully to everything hope has to say?" This discernment process is a time for everyone to speak from the heart and listen with an open mind. A major component of the opening workshop on January 20 will be education: you'll be learning a lot of information that most of you aren't aware of, some of it eye-opening. Bring your active curiosity and your thoughtful questions!

"When we believe that a new day is dawning, we don't just sit down and wait. We get up and go out to meet the light."

## **FAITH DEVELOPMENT**

Bonnie Blosser, Director of Faith Development

This month in Faith Development--

*When cast into the depths, to survive, we must first let go of things that will not save us. Then we must reach out for the things that can. — Rev. Forrest Church*

While our Soul Matters theme for December is “What does it mean to be a people of *Hope*?” it is the Soul Matters spiritual reflection on ‘*Letting Go*’ from 2015 that I offer you.

We cling. You name it, we’ve wrapped our grasping fingers and anxious hearts around it: success, safety, society’s standards of beauty, personal desires to be accepted, perfectionism, duty, fear, grudges, hurts, hopes, stuff, shame and privilege. For me, it is usually about safety. After studying and completing 2 graduate degrees, I spent 17 years working in retail for Kohl’s...and then, I let go. Leapt! Is more how it felt... as I began a new career as a religious educator. Serving initially as your Director of Lifelong Learning and moving into your Director of Faith Development, if titles could ever exemplify a person, mine have.

Whether the object of our grasping is good or bad, the holding on too long and too tightly is never good for the soul. Our faith pleads with us, “Let it go!” But there’s a twist: Our faith follows that up quickly with “Let it in!” This spiritual dance takes a two-step. As Forrest Church puts it, letting go must be followed up by reaching out or opening up. Indeed, the tragedy of grasping so tightly is not simply that we anchor ourselves to that which stifles us, but that we end up shutting out that which is trying to feed us.

And the great gift of Unitarian Universalism is its claim that this is what “salvation” is all about. With all due respect to our orthodox Christian brothers and sisters who see salvation as a process of becoming cleansed or purified, we join with those who see it as a journey of remaining open. To some the world may appear a place chock-full of temptations to keep out, but to UU’s the world is full of gifts, second chances and new starts desperately trying to get in! However, because of our clinging, there is no room. If our cup is full, there is no room for more (or new).

It takes strength, resolve, discipline and courage to let go, but mostly it requires we have faith and a belief that, once we release our grips, life will not leave us empty-handed.

I will not lie, I am scared. Often, I am afraid I have made the wrong decision. Certainly, I am grieving the letting go of work I love, with people I cherish. But while I am losing my dreams for my work at UUCL, I am opening myself to new dreams - of life near my family and the adventure of building an off-grid light straw clay home.

So do you have faith that letting go will be met with a life-giving coming in?

May 2018 bless all.

### **UUCL’s Youth Group**

I wish to put a spotlight on our youth group and their leaders this month: Paul Calnon, Jennifer Donnelly and Amanda Bhattachan. So far this fall, our small but mighty group has

attended a youth conference in Des Moines and meets nearly weekly at noon on Sundays. Through a democratic process, our youth decided on this year's robust curriculum of "Pizza Theology". To give you an idea of how awesome our youth group is, for December, they decided to view, reflect, explore and discuss Noam Chomsky's 2015 "Requiem for the American Dream". This documentary examines how U.S. policies favor the small elite of our most wealthy Americans at the expense of the majority. As our youth unpack this film, our December Soul Matters theme of 'Hope' unites the social justice theology of Unitarian Universalism with the energy and spirit of our youth.

If you wish to be added to our youth group email list for up to date information, please contact Jennifer at [jenniferdonnelly72@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferdonnelly72@gmail.com)

**There will be NO RE classes DEC 17<sup>th</sup> !** Families are encouraged to bring new hats, mittens, underwear, socks (for donation) to adorn our Christmas "Mitten Tree" and attend our 9:30 a.m. Program.

### **Adult Faith Development**

Soul Matters Sharing Circles will begin meeting twice on the first and third Sundays of each month. Join Lori Herndon on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> to explore and reflect on "What does it mean to be a people of Hope". Soul Matters packets to help you slow down and reflect this month are available at our welcome table in the lobby and on line at <http://uufi.net/soul-matters/>



### **Shining Star Volunteer for December**

Our Shining Star for December is ...drumroll, please... **John Brewer!**

He was nominated by 2 people, one of them Susan Harper. Here's what they had to say about John's service:

"John is the Pianist for our choir. This entails talent, dedication, and long hours in preparation, and rehearsal. He is also The Pianist for our services. He deserves recognition.

In 2004 when we first came to what was then UFL, John Brewer was holding up the music program on his own. He had been the sole pianist for the fledgling Spiritual Celebration (birthed in 2001). Since then, as I became more active at UFL/UUCL in various capacities, I have learned that John supports our congregation in myriad ways. When I was treasurer of the Fellowship, he served as assistant treasurer, although he didn't enjoy that role very much. But, my more complete comprehension of his dedication to UUCL has come gradually. John has become one of my "go to" people in the Music Program and he never lets me down. But, he does so much more than that. Currently John is the official choir accompanist. He is the pianist in various ensembles and helps arrange the music for different instruments. He is one of five pianists who share responsibilities for hymns, etc. during the services. But there is so much more! He is also the leader of the Blue Hospitality Team (having extensive prior experience coming out every Sunday to prepare coffee on his own). He is Recording Secretary for the UUCL Board of Directors. He is helping mentor our latest seminary student, Rebecca Gant. He is leading a Sunday morning Adult RE group that is contemplating how to deal with mood disorders. John RULES! (and did I mention? He is great at origami and other beautiful craft involving paper.)"

We would not be here if not for all the people who give their time, talents, and treasure for the benefit of all. Please help us recognize, appreciate, and celebrate the many wonderful volunteers that make

UUCL a great community. Who do you know that is going "above and beyond" to use their gifts for our congregation? Who are the "Shining Stars" you know that deserve recognition? We have so many fabulous volunteers here, and expect to get lots of nominations, so don't fret if your nominee doesn't appear right away in the Shining Star column in our monthly newsletter on the Shining Star display board. Keep looking ;- ) Thank you for being part of this way to say "Thanks!" to our wonderful volunteers. Click on the link below to nominate someone to be featured as a Shining Star for a month. And THANK YOU for your help! If you have any questions, please contact Brita Calnon at [brita.calnon@gmail.com](mailto:brita.calnon@gmail.com) Click here to nominate someone: <https://goo.gl/forms/bTYJk2AVdPSDHUem1>

## NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Board Meeting for December will be held on Thursday, December 7. The Board will be in Executive session from 7:00-8:00, and the regular meeting will begin about 8:00. Observers are welcome. If you wish to speak at a meeting, contact the Chair and ask to be placed on the agenda. The minutes will be posted as soon as they are approved on the website: <http://uufl.net/minutes-for-executiveboard-2017-2018/> and a hard copy will be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway by the restrooms. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at [shannyvan@gmail.com](mailto:shannyvan@gmail.com)

~Shannon VanLandingham Executive Board Chair, 2017-2018

## HOSPITALITY TEAMS FOR 2018

Do you remember that TV commercial where a son comes home from Africa while his parents are sleeping? He makes a pot of coffee and the wonderful aroma wakes the family. The commercial ends with them reuniting with hugs and happiness.

At UUCL, we reunite every Sunday, coming together to share our activities and the good company of our fellow members. Without the coffee, the snacks, and the greetings of UUCL's eight hospitality teams, those weekly reunions either wouldn't happen at all or would be too brief as people rush off to get brunch.

Every Sunday the members of a different hospitality team arrive early to make coffee, put out snacks, and take positions to greet people as they arrive. Like the son brewing the pot of coffee in the commercial, the team of the week creates the conditions that make people feel welcome. Our hospitality teams nourish newcomers and longtime members alike.

I am happy to be in charge of organizing our hospitality teams and to report that our teams have been re-balanced and assigned dates for 2018. If you were not assigned to a team and want to help with this vital service, please email me at [annfalexander@yahoo.com](mailto:annfalexander@yahoo.com).

### Dates for 2018.

Green: Team Leader Debbie Russell - 1/7, 3/4, 4/29, 6/24, 8/12, 10/7, 12/2

Blue: Team Leader John Brewer - 1/14, 3/11, 5/6, 7/1, 8/19, 10/14, 12/9

Indigo: Team Leader Martha Burbank - 1/21, 3/18, 5/13, 7/8, 8/26, 10/21, 12/16

Violet: Team Leader Jacqlene Nance - 1/28, 3/25, 5/20, 9/2, 10/28, 12/23

Turquoise: Team Leader Michelle Iwig-Harmon - 2/4, 4/1, 5/27, 7/15, 9/9, 11/4, 12/30

Red: Team Leader Ann Alexander - 2/11, 4/8, 6/3, 7/22, 9/16, 11/11

Orange: Team Leader Sara Vancil - 2/18, 4/15, 6/10, 7/29, 9/23, 11/18

Yellow: Team Leader Belinda Holmes - 2/25, 4/22, 6/17, 8/5, 9/30, 11/25

Thanks so much to everyone for all you do!

~Ann Alexander

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### MONTHLY COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: FAITH IN ACTION

Each week, our Sunday collection is given to a community organization that reflects our values and is chosen by our Social Justice Team.

The **December Community Connection** will be Headquarters Counseling Center.

Headquarters Counseling Center is a National Suicide Prevention Lifeline crisis center that serves people from all over the state of Kansas. Our programs are operated by volunteer counselors, who are trained and supervised by our Director of Counseling, Kristin Vernon LMSW. Our commitment is to provide the best possible service to anyone that reaches out to us for emotional support.



### SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM MONTHLY REPORT Summary of events in November

--**November 9**, Awake, the documentary on the DAPL resistance movement in North Dakota, was shown at Liberty Hall, followed by Q and A with the director, Myron Dewey. UUCL sent a check for \$1000 to the UU congregation in Bismarck last December, which helped many Native people in dealing with the legal aftermath of the gathering. Thanks to Graham Kreicker, who traveled to ND with a carload of necessities for the people involved. Now, the current concern is with the Keystone XL pipeline, where the route was approved by a Nebraska board of commissioners. Here is a note from Judith Leblanc in Lower Brule, South Dakota--

*The NO KXL movement is being built from a spiritual starting point that's rooted in the traditional Lakota, Dakota culture and origin stories, in the grassroots and in sovereign treaty rights that have been so often ignored. . . . Wherever you are, please take a moment to remember to think about how you can be a part of this historic movement to stop Keystone XL.*

Several UUCL members attended the annual ACLU fundraiser and dinner, featuring Floyd Abrams, a fervent defender of the First Amendment, in Overland Park on **November 10**.

**November 13** was the presentation on Climate Change and Extinction at ECM. Pennie Von Achen, the SJT representative for LETUS (Lawrence Environmental Team United for Sustainability) helped to organize the event.

**On November 14**, Barb Johnston and 4 other representatives advocating for passage of the Dream Act before the end of the year, met with Rep. Lynn Jenkins's District Director, Bill Roe, in Overland Park. This event was organized by Jake Kipp who was unable to attend.

Pennie also helped organize the meeting at Flory Hall on **Nov. 20**, on wastewater injection wells in Douglas County. A farmer from Baldwin, a geologist and an activist from Chase County were the presenters.

## DECEMBER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The Social Justice Team receives weekly notices from IndivisibleKC which has information on events in the region regarding opportunities to meet with Senator Moran, Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins and Congressman Kevin Yoder, as well as numbers to call for legislative concerns.

SJT received an email from Kathleen McCluskey-Fawcett of Centro Hispano which documents the ways that donated funds are used to help immigrants in the community. Centro Hispano was the March recipient for the Community Connection. For information on Centro Hispano, please see <http://sjevangelist.com/giving/>.

UUCL donated funds to UUSC, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, in November. Although the funds have not yet been counted, there will be a report on this soon. Thank you, Congregation, and here is a website that shows appreciation for the money they receive, and some ways in which the funds are used. <https://vimeo.com/243147818>

The most recent email going out to SJT is an urgent request to call legislators to let them know the pressing needs we are concerned about. Please make time if you are able to, to call and let our representatives know how you feel about the Dream Act (hoping Congress will vote on this before they close in December); the need for funding CHIP (the Children's Health Insurance Program), as funds will soon run out unless Congress acts; and net neutrality, which the head of the FCC says should be changed. Another concern is the new Tax Bill, for which Congress is aiming for a vote before Dec. 31.

Senator Moran 202-224-6521

Senator Roberts 202-224-4774

Congressman Kevin Yoder 202-225-2865

Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins 202-225-6601

For net neutrality, contact the FCC and/or a Congressperson. FCC is 888-225-5322 or website [www.fcc.gov/consumers](http://www.fcc.gov/consumers).

December 29 is the anniversary of the Wounded Knee massacre of 1890. Please see <http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/knee.htm> for information.

People's State of the State Rally will be held again at the Statehouse in Topeka on January 10, the event sponsored by Kansas People's Agenda.



## MUSIC NOTES

December! This is a month filled with beautiful music! Our choir and musicians are very busy preparing a variety of selections, ranging from "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen to the traditional "O, Holy Night"! Voices, keyboard, drums, flute, and cello will join in celebration throughout the month.

Don't miss our annual "Sounds of the Season" mostly choral music Sunday on December 17. The choir will revisit some old favorites and premiere some new selections we hope will become favorites as well.

Christmas Eve is always filled with lovely music and this year will be no exception. Come and join the caroling in Founders' Hall before the 7:00 service.

As always, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence for the continued support of our Music Program and to our musicians who continue to share their talents with us all.

The UUCL Music Community welcomes all who would like to share their talents with the UUCL Greater Community. For information, please contact:

**Susan Harper, UUCL Music Director, [UUCLMusic@sbcglobal.net](mailto:UUCLMusic@sbcglobal.net) , 785-830-8487.**



### **Free Money!**

Bring your checkbook and do some Christmas shopping on Sunday! Did you know you could buy all these gift cards with your Hy-Vee scrip? Visit the Scrip guys in the lobby. UUCL gets 6% of all proceeds. It's a win-win

### **ART IN FOUNDERS HALL**

**Jan Gaumnitz** is our featured local artist through December. In addition to the beautiful paintings on the wall, the glass case on the credenza is filled with some of her ceramic works. Jan writes the following about her work:

*The direction that my artwork would take was set during my childhood on a farm in Minnesota. It has always revolved around nature and my response--interpretation to it. Through the years I have painted on paper and canvas, sculpted in clay and metal, printed photographs on paper and canvas, and printed graphics utilizing collage. Many of these techniques and materials will be included in this exhibit.*

### **UUCL MEN'S GROUP**

The UUCL Men's breakfast will be at **9:00 on Saturday, December 2**, at Munchers. Please join us for coffee, pastries and (always stimulating) conversation. Please contact Bob Burbank, 785-766-8154 if you need additional information.

### **UUCL WOMEN'S GROUP**

UUCL Women's Group will meet on December 9 from 2-4 p.m. at Ellen Reid Gold's, 506 Pioneer. Contact Lynne Bodle, 843-8263 or [mlbodle2@gmail.com](mailto:mlbodle2@gmail.com) for more information or for a ride. See you there!

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence**  
**A Welcoming Congregation**  
**1263 N. 1100 Rd.**  
**Lawrence, KS 66047**  
**785-842-3999**

**To contact the NewsTeam, please email [uflcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:uflcommunications@gmail.com)**

***Other contact information:***

**Helping Hands Team**

[uflhelpinghands@gmail.com](mailto:uflhelpinghands@gmail.com)

or call UUCL office, 842-3339

*This team provides short-term practical assistance, e.g., meals, respite, rides.*

**Transportation Line**

785-842-7529 (to UUCL events or medical appointments)

**Pastoral Care Associates:** Rev. Jill Jarvis at 816-853-6530 [jjarvis1@kc.rr.com](mailto:jjarvis1@kc.rr.com) or

Deb Russell at email [Deb@Ks-Russells.com](mailto:Deb@Ks-Russells.com)

*This team provides confidential listening for those experiencing bereavement, illness, unemployment, life transitions, aging, loneliness, etc.*

**Minister Office Hours**

Rev. Jill Jarvis' hours tend to be variable. It is best to contact her for an appointment 816/853-6530 or <mailto:jjarvis1@kc.rr.com>

**Director of Faith Development**

Bonnie Blosser works at her UUCL office and from home

Sunday through Wednesday Contact her at [ufl.dll@gmail.com](mailto:ufl.dll@gmail.com) or call 785-318-6030 for an appointment.

**Administrative Office Hours:**

Administrative office hours are typically

Monday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Please be sure to call first, [785-842-3339](tel:785-842-3339), if coming out during the week, as doors are kept locked.