ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Community**

If 10% of households in each of Washington County’s six public school districts took a 5 minute internet [speed test](https://www.seobc.us/), residents would reach statistic validation

to contest the U.S. Federal Communications Commission. -Marietta Times

**Early Voting is Open** (Your Right and Civic Duty)

Absentee ballots were recently mailed out. Board of Elections are open for early voting.

Check their website for sample ballots, ID required & hours of operation.

From the FUUSM Choir selection last week - *We Are The Voice* *We are the voice of a new beginning*

*Those who loved us have taught us well.*

*Our song begins with their song’s ending.*

*…Repeated through time by all who believe, united we can live as one.*

Access to the **FUUSM Office** is limited at this time for safety purposes.

Please call or text Chris Keller before you come in.   Masks are required.  Use the FUUSM Building Entry Log (in a bright red folder) in the Office, Sanctuary & Social Hall.  Please sign in and out each time you enter any of the buildings.

Office Hours: ( M. W. Thurs. & Fri. 10:30-2:30pm).  **[fuusm@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:fuusm@suddenlinkmail.com)**

(740) 373-1238) Rev. Kathryn Hawbaker (937) 470-4151 (mobile phone).

Available by appointment, but not Tuesdays (Day Off) or Thurs. (study/service).

**CALENDAR This Week at F.U.U.S.M.**

**Mon. Oct. 12 Indigenous Peoples Day**

**Tues. Oct. 13** Office Closed

**Wed. Oct. 14 (12-1pm)**  Midweek Midday Meditation  (Zoom & Parlor)

<https://zoom.us/j/98570571823?pwd=VklkWWUrSjZCclJ2dElZS3ZVVHFhdz09>

Meeting ID: 985 7057 1823               Passcode: OMWed12

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**Wed. 10/14 (6:30 or 7pm)** FUUSM Monthly Women's Group (Check-in & Planning)

In person @ FUUSM Social Hall/Courtyard (6:30pm) or Zoom (7pm)

Images of the Goddess Slideshow from *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven* shared with both groups.

Planning for a Women’s Group Sunday Service on Nov. 15, 2020

**Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/95134658909?pwd=ZFdIUGZhQkorWkdLNklLNVBXbFROdz09>

Meeting ID: 951 3465 8909 Passcode: Cakes

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**(7pm)** FUUSM -UUtheVote group meets briefly (Zoom) to share ideas and experiences. Everyone is welcome to join the Zoom group that opens at 6:50 Wednesdays at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88626163372>

**Next Sunday October 18, 2020**

**(9:30am)** The Today's Issues group meets in parlor of the Religious Education/Office building following social distancing guidelines.  To join the discussion email Ted Goertzel. **[tedgoertzel@gmail.com](mailto:tedgoertzel@gmail.com)**

(10:30 Zoom opens) **11am  Worship Service  -E.V.E.**

*Ending Violence for Everyone* Worship Leaders: Robin Bozian & colleagues

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, bringing awareness to concerns about the need for men to speak up to men and for families to be frank as they provide guidance to boys and girls. As a board member of EVE, the local organization and shelter that serves survivors of domestic violence and their families, Robin Bozian will speak to those concerns and to the challenges EVE faces in these unusual time to make their services – and the Shelter –

available to those in need. Many in the congregation have long been supporters of EVE and participants in their fundraising auction, which could not take place this year.

This month is an opportune time to remind people how to support EVE during the pandemic.

**Please submit news and information for the November *Confluence* newsletter**

NO LATER THAN **SUNDAY OCTOBER 18** DEADLINE

**Email to [adesign@suddenlink.net](mailto:adesign@suddenlink.net) or [fuusm@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:fuusm@suddenlinkmail.com)**

**Looking Ahead**

**Thur. Oct. 22, 2019 Half-Earth Day**

**Sunday November 1, 2020**  (Daylight Savings Time Ends)

**(11am)** Day of the Dead Ceremony in the Courtyard.

**GREEN TIPS**  Reduce - Reuse - Recycle (Reconsider)

A central tenet of **spiritual ecology** is that science and Christianity have contributed to the disenchantment or desacralization of nature that led to the current “ecocrisis”

(White, 1967) “The Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crisis”

*Both our present science and our present technology are so tinctured with orthodox Christian arrogance toward nature that no solution for our ecologic crisis can be expected from them alone... By destroying pagan animism, Christianity made it possible to exploit nature in a mood of indifference to the feelings of natural objects.* (White, 1967, p. 1205)

Reactions by Christian theologians generated the field of ecotheology, a reactionary defense of Christianity (Hoffman & Sandelands, 2005), and an important component of spiritual ecology. With the Gaia Hypothesis proposed by environmental scientist James Lovelock and microbiologist Lynn Margulis in the 1970s, the world began to revitalize an ancient animist conceptual system of a larger scale of life-functioning. According to Lovelock and Margulis (1974): “*living organisms create the optimum conditions for their own existence, and in so doing create the superorganism Gaia”* (p. 4). The Gaia hypothesis was an important component in the environmental movement of the 1970s that informed the field of deep ecology (Devall & Sessions, 1985).

In honor of the **Blessing of the Animals** last Sunday,

learn more about **UU Animal Ministry**

*It is our disregard for nature and our disrespect of the animals that has caused this pandemic. -Jane Goodall*

**What YOU can do:**  Reduce your daily footprint on the environment.

Find out where your food comes from. Eat more plants

Ask your legislators to support the *Farm System Reform Act of 2019* (S. 3221)

College & community come together for public witness on Black Lives Matter - This is our church.

**BIPOC - [** Centering voices of traditionally marginalized people. ]

**Black Lives Matter -**public witness on Saturdays (12-3pm) @ the Putnam Street Bridge.

Opinion piece in **NYT** by Caroline R. Williams

***You Want a Confederate Monument? My Body Is a Confederate Monument***

The black people I come from were owned and raped by the white people I come from.

Who dares to tell me to celebrate them?

UUA Commission on Institutional Change Report

Widening the Circle

The charge given was to conduct an audit of the power structures and analyze systemic racism and white supremacy culture within the Unitarian Universalist Association.

For Further Consideration

**FUUSM Adult Religious Exploration**  (3 weeks)

**Thursdays- Oct. 15, 22, 29** (7-8:30pm)Join in an online discussion of

***Indigenous Peoples History of the US*** by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (Zoom Link)

<https://zoom.us/j/94822183499?pwd=ZVhkMHZWSnR1bTI5czZWRk1zdFFmQT09>

Meeting ID: 948 2218 3499 Passcode: fuusm2323

**Indigenous Role in Conservation -** Prakash Kashwan

Ecologists have shown that natural landscapes interspersed with low-intensity subsistence

agriculture can be [most effective for biodiversity conservation](https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/9780429028557). These multiple-use landscapes provide social, economic, and cultural support for Indigenous and rural communities.

My research shows that when governments enact socially just nature conservation policies,

such as [community forestry in Mexico](https://news.mongabay.com/2020/07/guardians-of-mexicos-community-forests-confront-climate-change/), they are [better able to handle conflicts over use of these resources](https://global.oup.com/academic/product/democracy-in-the-woods-9780190637385?cc=us&lang=en&). Socially just nature conservation is possible under two main conditions: Indigenous and rural communities have [concrete stakes in protecting those resources](https://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/23/world/americas/23mexico.html) and can [participate in policy decisions](https://merionwest.com/2018/01/09/public-policy-expert-political-engagement-is-key-to-social-justice/). Nonetheless, conservation institutions and policies continue to exclude and discriminate against [Indigenous](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2018/11/can-indigenous-land-stewardship-protect-biodiversity-/) & [rural communities](https://news.mongabay.com/2019/02/un-passes-first-ever-declaration-for-peasant-rights/). In the long run, it is clear to me that conservation will succeed only if it can support the goal of a dignified life for all humans and non-human species.

*From an article originally published by [The Conversation](https://theconversation.com/american-environmentalisms-racist-roots-have-shaped-global-thinking-about-conservation-143783),* and shared by *Yes!*

**Prakash Kashwan** is co-director of the research program on economic and social rights

at the Human Rights Institute, and assoc. professor in Dept. of Political Science at Univ. of Connecticut.

**Mindful & Authentic Tools & Practices**

A new FUUSM feature for sharing useful techniques and behaviors to practice putting our values in action. Your suggestions are welcome.

How can you respond when you see a loved one

sharing dubious or false information?

(recall the Sunday Service on August 20 by Mark Sibicky) ***The Social Psychology of a Pandemic:***

*Conspiracy Theories, Social Anxiety, and Why Some People Won’t Wear a Mask*

Ellen Cushing, [who edited our “Shadowland” special project on conspiracy theories](http://links.e.theatlantic.com/ctt?ms=MjM5MTM3NTgS1&kn=42&r=NjQzOTE0Njk3MTM0S0&b=0&j=MTg0MDQ1NjI5MgS2&mt=1&rt=0)-

In a piece in The Atlantic (March 2020), [Andy Carvin and Graham Brookie offered a maxim](http://links.e.theatlantic.com/ctt?ms=MjM5MTM3NTgS1&kn=56&r=NjQzOTE0Njk3MTM0S0&b=0&j=MTg0MDQ1NjI5MgS2&mt=1&rt=0) I’ve thought about daily since: **“Your goal shouldn’t be to be right, but to be helpful.”**When you see someone you know share bad information or unfounded conspiracy theories about the coronavirus or the president’s health, don’t just tell them they’re wrong—calmly point them in the direction of a vetted source (such as *The Atlantic*!) or Snopes, and walk through the facts with them. Strive to be constructive, not combative.

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\*My mother sends me articles from medical experts about the latest understandings of the nature and science of the Coronavirus. I find it very helpful, and she is a trusted source. - Rev. Hawbaker