



The UUCC Chronicle

August 2022

Service: Sunday, 10:00 AM

Access codes are available at
<https://uucookeville.org/2020/06/10/new-virtual-service-meeting-information/>
Past service recordings at
<https://uucookeville.org/worship/past-worship-services/>

August 7

“The Problem with Peace”

Andrew Smith

August 14

“James Reeb: A UU Martyr”

Lay Minister Deanna Lack

August 21

“Water Communion: Water is Life”

Lay Minister Deanna Lack

August 28

“Dichotomy: Holding Opposites at Once”

Lay Minister Deanna Lack

Reflections: Sunday, 11:00 AM

Reflections is an informal, non-judgmental, small-group discussion of the sermon topic. Participants share thoughts and insights or just listen. All are welcome.

Board Meeting: 12:00 PM

Sunday, August 14

Book Discussion: 6:00 PM

Tuesdays, August 2 and 16

<https://uucookeville.org/events/book-discussion-group/>

*Twelve Steps to a
Compassionate Life*

By Karen Armstrong

Facilitated by Deanna Lack

Meditation: 6:00 PM

Tuesdays, August 8 and 22

<https://uucookeville.org/events/meditation/>

Everyday Spiritual Practice

Facilitated by Deanna Lack

Fair Trade:

Saturdays 12:00 – 1:00 PM,

<https://uucookeville.org/2020/05/22/fair-trade-table-curb-side-pickup/>

Facilitated by Linda Delventhal

Email: lindadel48@gmail.com

CMAC: Tuesday, August 2, 5:30 PM

At UUCC or Zoom (request)

Facilitated by Andrew Smith and Deanna Lack



COOKEVILLE MUTUAL AID COLLECTIVE AND UUCC MEETING

By: Andrew Smith

Dear friends (of our friends who happen to be incarcerated in Putnam County and the surrounding counties) and potential collaborators, this coming Tuesday, August 2, at 5:30 p.m., in person at 31 West First Street (or on Zoom by request), we will acknowledge the first two years of Cookeville Mutual Aid Collective, now an official partnership with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cookeville.

The first part of the meeting will be an opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate the work we have already done.

For the second part of the meeting, we plan to dream bravely and boldly with an open-ended brainstorm about what mutual aid and cooperation could look like in our community for the longer term.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cookeville

31 West First Street, Cookeville TN 38501

Deanna Lack, Lay Minister

Cassandra Gronendyke, Board President

The Cookeville Mutual Aid Collective (CMAC) was formed during the summer of 2020 to provide a close-knit venue for community support and community action to respond to community needs in tangible, practical, immediate ways.

We are a group of friends and volunteers, with no formal infrastructure.

Our methods seek to reflect grassroots empowerment and solidarity yet with hearts and minds for sustainable transformation of society for the greatest good. We will initially focus our work on issues related to poverty and prisons, with a plan to implement achievable projects to provide immediate benefits.

Over the weeks and months since our founding, we have started a pen-pal and commissary donation program for persons incarcerated in the Putnam County Jail. Based on our tentative and preliminary efforts, we have discovered a great need for this service and no overlap or duplication with other groups. So, the core collective members are now actively seeking partners to send mail to our friends inside and to make commissary donations, as you are able. We are doing this as a coordinated effort and can provide support based on our experiences so far.

Our work as CMAC will be that of seed committee, whereas whatever larger projects emerge, such as a bail fund or other prison solidarity projects, cash micro-grants to folks in need, or Food Not Bombs, or what have you, will probably end up eventually being their own free-standing projects, modeled after what has worked best in other locales.

Here are some helpful links:

Meeting with a formerly incarcerated friend:
<https://youtu.be/XNN-B4Nc-EA>

Helpful intro & how-to link from the UUCS website:
<https://uucookeville.org/2021/12/27/prison-ministry/>



FIRST ADOPT-A-ROAD GARBAGE PICKUP OF 2022

By Susie Zuller

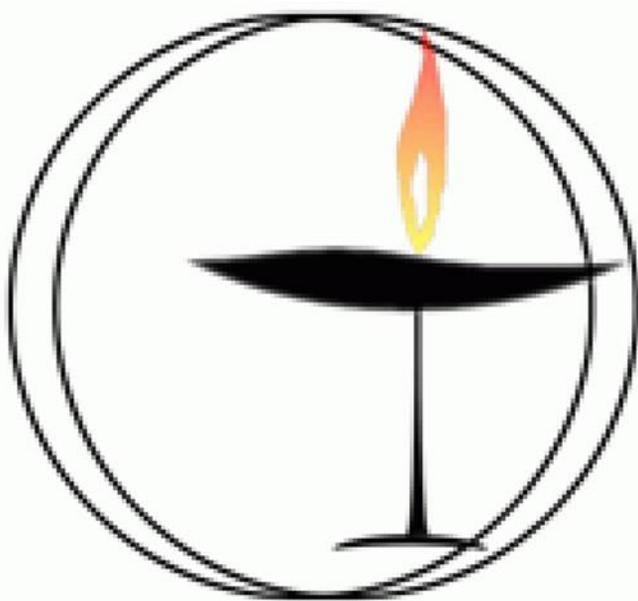
Approximately 50 pounds! That’s how much litter that UUCS volunteers gathered from our first Adopt-a-Road event in 2022 – since having our new signs erected. Five individuals braved the heat and humidity in the Ficosa parking lot on Saturday, July 9, at 9:00 a.m. After some brief socializing, we split into two groups to gather litter along a one-mile stretch of Highlands Park Blvd. west to the roundabout at Venture Dr. and south to Tennessee Ave.

As usual, UUCS will get credit for our numbers, and Rob Wright, executive coordinator with the Keep Putnam County Beautiful -- Clean Commission will send a report on our volunteer efforts to the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). “TDOT,” Wright stated, “provides grants [to counties] based on the number of volunteer hours.” UUCS donated 10 volunteer hours.

Many volunteers view partnership with the Clean Commission as an extension of our many Sunday services on climate justice with Crys Zinkiewicz, chair of the Creation Care Committee at West End United Methodist Church in Nashville. We are grateful to the Creation Care Committee's contribution to our Sunday worship services.

Additionally, one of the Unitarian Universalists' Seven Principles states: Respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part. Volunteers are putting their faith into action.

UUCC's next litter pickup will probably be sometime in either September or October. If you would like further information on UUCC's Adopt-a-Road efforts, please contact Susie.



ONE SMALL STEP

By Karen Kincaid

“That’s one small step for a man,” Armstrong meant to say in 1969, when men conquered the moon with rocket’s red glare. Then brave men returned to the land of the free, but not before planting a flag with red stripes and white stars mutely singing, “This is ours,” even though we said with our words, “The moon is for everyone.”

That’s one small step for a woman, one leap for womankind in 1973, when seven united, the courts decided, women were free to choose. That same year I recited, “to the flag,” my heart under my hand too young to understand: Allegiance. Republic. Or Pledge. Was its purpose to propagate patriots? To educate? Or was it subjugation? Of my right to refuse, I was not informed so I conformed, speaking blindly, until I could see, this land is not my land and neither is it free. Not entirely.

That’s one giant leap backward for humankind in 2022 (at a time when we’d been thinking our liberties were meant for keeping). Like Pilate, the five on one side sent autonomy back to the States to decide washing their hands of it. And one-hundred-million Sisters Daughters Mothers Others CRIED, “Is it just us, or is justice lopsided? Are the blessings of liberty secure for only a few?”

One nation indivisible, divided
 in fields of red and blue.
 But we are not cattle. We will not kowtow. We
 will not cower.
 We will catalyze
 strategize
 We will alchemize, step after one small step,
 transmuting grief and rage into a fresh page of
 power
 on which is written,
 "I exist. Therefore, I insist
 that I am free.
 My womb is a sovereign entity.
 Your flag is unwelcome here."



WHO: Registered 18-year olds and over
 WHAT: State/Federal Primary and General
 Elections
 WHERE: Your Election Precinct
 WHEN: Thursday, August 4, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
 WHY: Your voice matters.
 FOR FURTHER INFO: Your county’s election
 commission
<https://putnamcountyttn.gov/election-commission>
<https://overtovotes.com/>
<https://fentresscountyttn.gov/election-commission/>



“The inherent worth and dignity of every person.”

Reprinted from Misha Sanders, UU minister at Northwest UU Church (Georgia). (Misha has given blanket permission to repost her musings.)

Me: "Love, guide me today."

Love: "GET IN THE PIT AND TRY TO LOVE SOMEONE!!"

Me: "Ew. Kid Rock? That MAGA loser literally lives in a double-wide beside his White House replica construction site."

Love: "...and...?"

Me: "Oh...okay...well, fuck."

“Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly,” from Roddy Biggs’ service of 7/24/22.

Truth or joke?

A traveler couldn’t find the local Unitarian Universalist church. After looking in the center of town, in the suburbs, and out in the surrounding countryside, the traveler asked a farmer, “Am I too far out for the UU church?” The farmer’s reply, “Nobody is too far out for them.”

2022 UUCC Annual Board Business Meeting Saturday, July 23 at 9 a.m.

By Carol Fleetwood, Board Secretary

Board members present were the president Cassandra Gronendyke; treasurer, Sandra Jordan; secretary, Carol Fleetwood; members-at-large Norma Scarlett, Kathleen Rozanski, and Kathy Perdue. Kathy volunteered to act as interim president elect until another UUCC member volunteers for that position. Also present was Lay Minister Deanna Lack.

Deanna gave an arousing speech in which she asked the board to consider the human aspects of board decisions instead of just the practical budgetary side. A new board covenant was created. Kathy asked the board to have compassion for others who are depleted emotionally because of the Covid pandemic's last two-year disruption in lives.

Visions for the next year included the following discussions: a social picnic with other churches (Norma); a UU educational committee (Kathy); UU education classes for youth and children (Kathleen); a building fund (Cassandra), inter-congregational activities, a safe space for liberal youth, activism in congregants, and a commission lay minister by the end of 2022 (Deanna). Carol and Sandra agreed with all proposals.

The 2023 proposed budget includes: minister, \$9,900 (2-3 x/month); guest speakers (\$500); building rent \$8,400; renters' insurance \$950; internet access \$1,200; electricity \$1,200; repairs/maintenance \$300 (paint); TN Secretary of State \$25; office supplies \$50; hospitality & housekeeping \$75; membership \$75; seminars, trainings, & assemblies \$650; leadership school \$0; marketing & website \$500; UU education \$200; social justice \$0; church movie license \$287.67; Zoom on-line ministry \$120; UUA dues \$1,216; total \$25,620.

Planning for the pledge drive for October, a different board member will mention the need for pledges every Sunday after the sermon. Greeters for in-

person services will be Kathy and Norma. Cassandra gave a Jetpack CRM demonstration as a proposed solution for keeping up with all UUCC members, friends, visitor, contacts, etc. in an online folder. Deanna proposed the first two Sundays in August for the congregation to bring books to sell at McKay's as a UUCC fundraiser. The board toured the back exit and noted that it is not handicapped accessible.

The next board meeting is Sunday, August 14, after Reflections.

Anyone wanting to read the full minutes may contact Carol at cfleet2605@gmail.com and an email of them will be sent.

Notes from Your Board

For UUCC, the Little Congregation that Works
(Home of the Golden Swarm)

Treasury Report

	June 2022	Jan – June 2022
Income:	\$2,052	Income: \$13,642
Expenses:	\$1,144	Expenses: \$9,634

Additional Income

Part of the total income for 2022 comes from use of our building by other groups (\$120), the Kroger Community Rewards Program (\$98), the Fair-Trade Project (\$11), and the Amazon Smile Program (\$83). If you have any questions about these programs, please talk to any Board member or consult the posters on display.

Pledged Income

Everyone has worked very hard staying current with their pledges. At the half-way point of the year (June), just over 51% of the pledges have been redeemed. Since we are saving to pay the Nov 1 rent check, everyone must continue to contribute to the best of their abilities for us to succeed as a congregation. All together now: FORWARD!