

SUMMER SERVICES •2016•

THE UNITARIAN CHURCH IN CHARLESTON

“Building a welcoming home for spiritual freedom
that enriches our lives and serves our world.”



ABOUT OUR SUMMER SERVICES

Each summer we invite local speakers and church members to share their stories and views, music and voices. Our way of faith draws insight from many sources and contends there is wisdom to be found in all world religions, so summer services sometimes offer perspectives from other traditions. Also, these services might be more experimental than worship during the regular church year. We consider the opportunity to craft these thought-provoking offerings an honor and a privilege. We hope you will leave wanting more—having answered some of your questions and inviting you to question some of your answers! Enjoy the Summer Series and thank you for joining us on the journey.

Priscilla Shumway & Bernadette Victor
Co-Chairs, Worship Services Committee

Welcome to our Summer Series. These services, brought to you by the Worship Services Committee, are intentionally creative and diverse. You may not see much of me as the congregation grants me time away for reading and respite. While the minister is ultimately responsible for the pulpit, the summer allows a broader consideration of what brings anyone into a faith tradition. I trust that your encounter with us will emphasize that we have more in common than what separates us. Though our activities slow down, and the minister and some members may not be present every Sunday, we remain a vital community—marked by freedom and friendship, seeking truth and meaning together. Thank you for attending, and I hope you continue to join us during the regular church year.

Rev. Danny Reed
Minister

Families are welcome to participate in our Summer Series. We begin with the Annual Picnic Service at James Island County Park, June 19, where we will have a jump castle and water slide for the children. The remaining services will be held on the church campus and families are asked to sit together for the beginning of the service. Children will then be “sung out” to the Annex for their activities. Our summer curriculum for all ages is “Lessons from Dr. Seuss,” based on the beloved stories of Theodor Geisel. Childcare will be available for younger children, provided by professional staff, in the Annex 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. each Sunday.

Janet Watts
Director of Religious Education

Unitarian Church in Charleston

Summer Service Schedule

June 19

“Heroes, Just For One Day”

William Epes, Intern Minister

Annual Picnic Service at James Island County Park, Stono Shelter.
Begin arriving at 10:00 a.m., Informal Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.

Service followed by picnic lunch. Dress comfortably and bring a dish to share.

Who has the courage to love against all odds? All of our sandwiches are heroes at the end-of-church-year picnic. So are all our friends. Even if they are hot dogs. We find out why in tales short and tall.

June 26 “Under the Sea at 2050: A Lighthearted Look at Climate Change”

Sharon Strong, Leader

What will happen to our church by mid-century as we try to adapt to a warmer and less predictable planet? Members of this spring's Green Sanctuary Adult RE class "Change is Our Choice: Creating Climate Solutions" have built a time machine, and invite you to come along.

July 3

“Unitarian Universalism and Patriotism”

Richard Hayes, Col (ret) USAF, and Rev. Danny Reed

For Unitarian Universalists and religious liberals, patriotism is not a simple matter; like the rest of life, it is complicated, and we'll never all agree on one single interpretation. Yet we know we share certain abiding ideals that relate directly to patriotism. Come explore these issues in our “July 4th” service.

July 10

“May Be”

Ruth Rambo

A consideration of the possibilities of our lives and our inability to forecast our own futures. Sometimes we cannot determine where we will be going, nor can we determine what each step along the way means. We do know there are infinite possibilities in our lives, and we can determine how and what we think about those possibilities. Ruth Rambo, a native of Cincinnati Ohio, is the former Associate State Director of AARP Alabama. A published poet, African folklorist, and avid reader, Ruth brings a wealth of experience and perspective to our summer pulpit.

July 17

“Meditation, Mindfulness, Centering, Prayer”

Muni Natarajan and Gary Smith

Can meditation be a pathway to greater spirituality? So many names and forms. How are they different and similar? Does it matter? Church members Muni Natarajan, a Hindu monk for 37 years in a monastery in Kauai, Hawaii, and Gary Smith, our Sunday meditation teacher, will ponder these questions and guide us in meditations.

July 24 **“The Other U in Unitarian Universalism - Universalism”**

Rev. Nancy Pellegrini

Scholar Michael Hogue describes Unitarian Universalism as having morphed “from intra-theological Christian meanings (anti-trinitarian and universal salvation) to inter-theological claims about the nature of religion as drawing from many sources.” What does our faith mean for us? We will explore the evolution of Universalism by listening to the voices of prominent historical figures. Expect guest appearances.

July 31

“Pants on Fire”

William Epes, Intern Minister

What is so human about a lie? Noble lies, white lies, lies of commission and omission. Where does right end and wrong begin? We cross these lines with Plato, Orwell, and Bok to consider how to live in a web of trust, faith, and hope.

August 7

“August Amblings”

Rev. Danny Reed

Rev. Danny can't possibly know at press time in June what might need to be said in August. Why, anything could happen. And it probably will. Join the minister as he shares his annual summer sermon.

August 14

“Throw Wide the Doors”

Rev. Janice Wald Friedman

Interfaith Minister, Rev. Friedman will explore the ways in which we welcome and integrate people with disabilities into our faith communities. She will contemplate how full inclusion fits into our diverse religious values and religious community.

August 21 **“Divine Educators”**

David Springer

Bahá'ís believe that throughout history, God has sent to humanity a series of Divine Educators whose teachings have provided the basis for the advancement of civilization. These Divine Educators have included Abraham, Buddha, Jesus, Krishna, Moses, Muhammad, and Zoroaster. Bahá'u'lláh, the latest of these Messengers, explained that the religions of the world come from the same Source and are in essence, successive chapters of one religion from God. David Springer was introduced to Bahá'i in 1969 in Mexico City and his life was changed. Today he is an elected leader with Charleston's Bahá'i Spiritual Assembly.

August 28 “Trans Voices, Trans Lives”

Jen Bennett, John Hyatt, and William Epes, Intern Minister

In a world where the gender binary remains dominant and privileged, Transgender and Gender Nonconforming (TGNC) folks have a multitude of obstacles, bumpy roads, and intense adventures. At this service, learn about some of these obstacles, and about the work being done by TGNC people and their allies to make that road a little more navigable, and one filled with companionship, love, and acceptance.

September 4 “Oh, For the Love of...Church!”

Judy Manning

What can be learned by a newly minted Unitarian Universalist from three years service on the Vestry and attendance at the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association. And what does the word “church” actually mean to us?

End of Summer Services



September 11 Annual Pancake Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (floating)

Gage Hall

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this church is open to all who choose to walk with us in the spirit of love and in the search for truth. We have no creedal requirements for membership. To become a member one completes the Pathways Class (see below) and signs the Membership Book in the presence of the minister or an officer of the church. If you wish to explore membership or have questions about the church, please speak to Rev. Reed or Membership Coordinator, Carol Oates.

PATHFINDERS: Upper Gage Hall

see times below

This is a one-session Sunday class geared toward those new to our congregation who would like to receive basic information about Unitarian Universalism and the Unitarian Church in Charleston. Bring your questions! Childcare available.

July 17 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Class on the following Sundays meets 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.:

September 25, October 23, December 4

February 5, March 26, May 7

PATHWAYS: Charleston Day School

see times below

This is a two-session Sunday class for those ready to explore what it means to be a Member of the Unitarian Church in Charleston. Lunch served, childcare provided.

Summer Pathways: August 14 & 21 11:15 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Classes on the following Sundays meet 12:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.:
Fall Pathways: October 9 & 16
Winter Pathways: January 22 & 29
Spring Pathways: April 2 & 9

Sign up for either opportunity at the Membership Table in Gage Hall,
or contact Carol Oates, Membership Coordinator, membership@charlestonuu.org.

PARKING

As you may have discovered, parking can initially be difficult. However, convenient options do exist. Please stop by the Welcome Table in Gage Hall for advice, a map, and specific instructions.

SUMMER HOSPITALITY

Volunteers are needed to bring flowers, refreshments, and/or help clean up after Coffee Hour during the summer. A convenient online “SignupGenius” form is available. If you need assistance with SignupGenius, have questions, or simply want to let us know you wish to help, please contact me at 843-723-4617. Thank you.

Sandra Selvitelli, Administrator

STAFF

Hillary Hutchinson, Summer Services Coordinator

Amy Ball, Summer Music Coordinator

Reverend Danny R. Reed, Minister

Reverend Nancy Pellegrini, Community Minister

William Epes, Intern Minister

Sandra Selvitelli, Administrator

Janet Watts, Director of Religious Education

Carol Oates, Membership Coordinator

Joe McCormack, Sexton

Amanda Gabriel & Melissa Zahler, Childcare Providers

VESTRY (2016-2017)

Frank Hardie, Erica Hattings-Brodeur, Tommy Hughston, John Klintworth,
Jonathan Lamb, Richard Nelson, Maureen Porter, Gail Schiffer, Sue Weller,
Nolan Prestwood, Treasurer

WORSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Priscilla Shumway, Co-chair, Bernadette Victor, Co-chair, Amber Allen, Ralph Haller, Richard Hayes , Roy Hiller, Elaine Hunter, Hillary Hutchinson, Michele Insinger, Hilary Nelson, Sharon Strong, Tobias Van Buren, and Danny Reed

Summer afternoon—summer afternoon;
to me those have always been
the two most beautiful words in the English language.

—Henry James

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