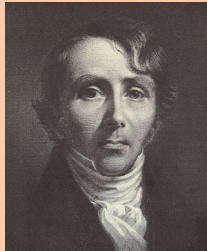




# THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HISTORY AND HERITAGE SOCIETY BULLETIN



**JOIN US FOR THE 2019 CONVOCATION!**



**Origins of Unitarianism, Universalism, and  
Unitarian Universalism in America:  
Implications for Liberal Religious Thought and Practice Then and Now**

**Where: Maritime Conference Center (MCC) outside Baltimore, Maryland**

**When: October 17-20, 2019**

The 2019 Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Studies celebrates the 200th anniversary of William Ellery Channing's sermon "Unitarian Christianity" and the 250th anniversary of John Murray's arrival in North America. The theme looks at the theological and social justice implications of what they preached – not only in their time but in the decades that followed. Participants and presenters will engage with the legacies of early Unitarian and Universalist historical figures to consider the impact they had on shaping the theology, ethics, and practice of contemporary Unitarian Universalism. The program includes plenary talks from the UUHHS theme speaker, Dr. Christopher Cameron, and the Collegium Distinguished Scholar, the Rev. Mark Harris. There will also be a featured workshop on dismantling white supremacy as well as a panel on the Black UU Living History Project and another panel on the history of Berry Street Lecture. Participants will also hear papers, performances, and an award-winning sermon. Join in a rich gathering of ministers, scholars, students, and all others who value exploring the history, heritage, and future of Unitarian Universalism.

**UU History & Heritage Theme Speaker: Christopher Cameron**, Assistant Professor of History at University of North Carolina, Charlotte. A scholar of early American history and African American Religion, Dr. Cameron explored the relationship between Puritan theology and the rise of black abolitionism in his first book, *To Plead Our Own Cause: African Americans in Massachusetts and the Making of the Antislavery Movement*.

**Collegium Distinguished Scholar: Mark Harris**, Minister of First Parish in Watertown, Massachusetts (Retired) Rev. Harris is the author of the *Historical Dictionary of Unitarian Universalism, Elite: Uncovering Classism in Unitarian Universalist History*, and (with Andrea Greenwood) *An Introduction to the Unitarian and Universalist Traditions*.



Dear Friends,

The Unitarian Universalist History and Heritage Society held its Annual Meeting on July 30 at First Parish and Church in Dedham, MA.

I am honored to serve as the new President of UUHHS. Prof. Nicole Kirk of M/L is the Vice President, Prof. Dan McKanan continues as Secretary, and the Rev. Rali Weaver of Dedham succeeds me as Treasurer.

The newest members of the Board are Prof. Tisa Wegner of Yale Divinity School, the Rev. Connie Simon of First Unitarian in Cincinnati, and Josh Leach, a recent HDS grad now of the staff of UUSC.

Continuing board members are Prof. Mark Hicks of M/L; Phoebe Cos, editor of our newsletter; Rev. Patrice Curtis of Clearwater, FL; and Gail Forsyth-Vail of the UUA staff.

Outgoing president Rev. Earl Holt and Dr. Kathleen Parker, editor of the Journal of UU History, serve on the board ex officio.

We are committed to some new initiatives:

Reaching out to identify those individuals serving congregations as church historian or archivist. Josh Leach is taking the lead in that endeavor.

Helping congregations examine their historic involvement or complicity with racial injustice. Mark Hicks has developed a document to provide some guidance. The Journal will publish some exemplary stories.

Giving the online Dictionary of UU Biography a new look and expanded mission. Connie Simon is leading that effort.

We earnestly urge those of you who participate in this chat to keep submitting research and historical queries; we are glad to help. We also hope that you will do three things:

- 1) If you have not recently renewed your membership in UUHHS, please do so now. We had some difficulty with our web-based membership system using PayPal, but those issues are now resolved. <http://uuhhs.org/>
- 2) Consider joining us in Baltimore this October 17-20 for the UU History Convocation celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Channing's Baltimore sermon and the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John Murray's arrival in America.  
<http://uuhhs.org/>
- 3) Ask your friends who care about UU history to consider both. In a movement where we don't share a creed or scripture, our history is a vital source of theological and spiritual reflection and connection.

Yours truly,

John Buehrens, Past President, UUA  
President, UU History and Heritage Society



The new and old UUHHS Board of Trustees met at the end of July in Dedham, Massachusetts for the annual meeting.



**\*\*HAVE AN INTERESTING  
HISTORIC UU FIND THAT YOU  
WANT TO SHARE WITH  
UUHHS?\*\***

**Please send any submissions about  
your local UU history and heritage to  
the UUHHS newsletter! Send all  
submissions to newsletter editor,  
Phoebe Cos at  
phobekates16@gmail.com by April  
1st. We look forward to hearing your  
stories!**

**Unitarian Universalist History and  
Heritage Society Board 2017-2018**

John Buehrens, *President*

Nicole Kirk, *Vice President*

Dan McKanan, *Secretary*

Rali Weaver, *Treasurer*

Kathleen Parker, *Journal Editor ex  
officio*

Earl Holt, *ex officio*

Phoebe Cos, *Newsletter Editor*

Patrice Curtis, *Board Member*

Mark Hicks, *Board Member*

Gail Forsyth-Vail, *Board Member*

Joshua Leach, *Board Member*

Tisa Wegner, *Board Member*

Connie Simon, *Board Member*



**ARE YOU A STUDENT? DO YOU WANT TO ATTEND  
CONVO?  
WE'VE GOT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOU!**

**The Convo Committee is offering \$200 scholarships to college,  
graduate and divinity students.**

**To apply, please contact: Kathleen Parker at  
krparker.4487@gmail.com.**



"I look out at my eyes, I come to my window, and feel and breathe the fresh air. It is a fact equally glorious with the most inward experience."

~ Henry David Thoreau, 1852

This window in the First Parish of Dedham bell tower has inspired us this summer to reflect internally as an organization. Do you have a window that brings you peace and reflection?

Share it with us!  @UUHistorySoc or  @uuhistoryandheritagesociety



