



The Spark

The Newsletter of
the Chalice Lighter
Program Committee
Fall 2019

Grant for UUCSJS Allows Stretch to Full-Time Ministry

The Central East Region Chalice Lighters Program Committee is very pleased to announce the award of \$20,000 to the **Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore (UUCSJS)** in Galloway, NJ. This grant will help the congregation realize its goal to move its minister, Reverend Dawn Fortune, to full-time status within the next two years. Since Rev. Dawn was called in August 2017, Sunday morning attendance has significantly increased and the congregation has had its highest number of new members in a year. Having a full-time minister will help UUCSJS grow in membership and provide additional leadership to enhance its already well-established social justice footprint in the wider community. UUCSJS is located in the largest municipality in New Jersey, has an attractive building with a university outside its door, on a main road and accessible by car to several cities and towns in Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. It is poised to attract new members from the surrounding area to its ministries. The pictures below give a flavor of the congregation.



Above: The UU Congregation of South Jersey Shore dedicates their new Black Lives Matter Banner on the left. On the right is Rev. Dawn Fortune, minister of the congregation.

Chalice Lighters Benefits from Gift from Goodloe Memorial



In June 2019, Goodloe Memorial UU Congregation (GMUUC) in Bowie, Maryland, closed its doors as a brick and mortar property and became the Goodloe Learning Community, an organization in covenant with the UUA. Goodloe is named after after a Black UU Pioneer, Donald Speed Smith Goodloe, the first African American to graduate from a Unitarian seminary in 1911. Knowing that he would never be called to be a minister in a white congregation, he became principal of Bowie Normal School and his ministry was giving children an education. Bowie Normal School transformed into Bowie State University in Maryland. In 2005, the Bowie UU Church changed its name to Goodloe Memorial UU Congregation in honor of Rev. Goodloe. It has now transitioned into the Goodloe Learning Community, which also has a ministry in educating students. As part of this transition, the Congregation voted to disburse its assets. The Central East Region Chalice Lighters Program Committee is thrilled to report that we have received a \$3,000 legacy donation from Goodloe. Board Chair Ken Shilling said that thanks to Chalice Lighters grants, Goodloe received financial assistance to have a student intern minister, a director of religious education, a minister, and a building. It also helped to continue the Goodloe name and principles for the past three decades and beyond. The Committee is deeply grateful for this example of paying it forward. The pictures are from Goodloe's final celebration.