

## UAAA COMMUNITY OF WRITERS 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The UAAA Community of Writers meets on the second Sunday of every month to read our original writings for the group's supportive responses (remaining 2019 dates: May 12, June 9, July 14, August, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8). Each person may bring a piece of his or her writing—whether a work in progress, a finished work, or a new piece on a theme suggested by a member and accepted by the group. In addition, the Writers group presents two Formal Readings for the congregation, first, launching the Summer Season and second, greeting the Winter Holidays.

The summer Formal Reading of 2018 was held July 15<sup>th</sup>. An audience of thirty-five gathered in Jackson Chapel to hear original writings by eleven Writers members. Many attendees also stayed to enjoy conversation and coffee with the writers.

In September, James Valenti, participating in our shared leadership, proposed a meeting sharing our reflections on 911. Each of us was to read an original poem, narrative, memoir segment, or essay, expressing our thoughts about our experiences and memories. The session created a moving contemplation of the 911 national tragedy.

Shirley Smith requested that the October meeting be a "Get Acquainted" session to get to know each other better as writers. In a potluck social hour, we read brief bios of our writing lives for everyone's inspiration.

To express what spirituality means to us, Bruce Lund led a session on our personal searches for spiritual understanding. This exploration in prose or poetry, though difficult, proved to be a fulfilling writing.

For our April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, Kathy Edgren, a published poet of three books, presented an interactive discussion on publishing creative writing!

The Community of Writers welcomes all adults interested in creative writing.

Mary Lund

Co-facilitator