



# The Quest

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION AT SHELTER ROCK

*We aspire to be a loving, religious community where we can grow spiritually and build a more just and joyful world. —UUCSR Vision Statement*



[See the Program and Event List Here](#)

October 7, 2020

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2020, 8:00 PM**  
*The Rev. Jennifer L. Brower*

**Soulful Sundown: The Future Beckons** Features spoken word and music by the Cosmic Orchestra: “Where music lies at the heart of the religious experience.” \* (See details on page 2.)

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020, 11:00 AM**  
*The Rev. Jaye Brooks*

**Clouds...** When the storm is coming, we brace ourselves for it. We hunker down. Powerful storms are usually brief and then we come out into the sunshine. It’s different when we have a stretch of prolonged cloudiness, when day after day the sky is overcast. How do we cope with the clouds that linger in our lives? Is there really a “silver lining?” Can we look at clouds from “both sides now?” We’re now in a time, an era, when even the word “blue” has multiple meanings—the sadness that often accompanies cloudy skies, and the joyous celebration when the clouds clear and the sky is a deep, beautiful blue.\*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020, 11:00 AM**  
*Alia Shinbrough, UUCSR Student Minister*

**What’s At Stake?** More and more, it is clear: there is no such thing as a risk-free life. But who is risking what? Which risks are ours to take and which ask too much, not only of ourselves but of our interdependent systems and communities? How do we live ethical lives when each decision is measured by risk not entirely known or entirely our own? To whom are we accountable, for whom are we responsible, and with whom do we belong? All to ask: when worlds break, what do we hold on to and lift up as sacred? And how do we make ways forward through the pieces? \*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020, 11:00 AM**  
*UN Worship Service*

**People, Power, Planet**, with Janet Bendowitz, Clara LaCorte, Rev. Jaye Brooks, and special guest Bruce Knotts of the Unitarian Universalist Association at the UN (UU@UN). In recognition of United Nations Day, celebrated around the world on October 24, this worship service lifts up the work of the United Nations and its efforts to protect Earth and its inhabitants from climate change. \*

\* UUCSR Worship Services are broadcast LIVE on [uucsr.org/worship](http://uucsr.org/worship), on Facebook, and YouTube. They are available thereafter on the same platforms and as podcasts. Visit [www.uucsr.org/podcast](http://www.uucsr.org/podcast). Also on NSTV.

**TOUCHSTONES**  
*The Rev. Jaye Brooks*



The other day, I was searching through my library of poetry and came across John Mercer’s [“Preparing for a Hike.”](#) As a soul-deep, near-Druid, nature-loving and breathing human being, I resonate with Mercer’s poetic instructions for would-be hikers.

The lines I like best are: “consider the route / imagine your way through the good route / and also the other route, the less preferred, / the one you’ll need when the first proves impassable.”

Time and time again, out in the wilderness—and once, on a can’t-go-wrong, perfect-for-beginners walk in the woods—I’ve found myself turned around, overtired, worried, and occasionally terrified. Because the good route, the one that everyone prefers, always has surprises and often becomes impassable.

Here we are in the middle of 2020’s less-preferred route: the way we had planned to go has suddenly and irrevocably become impassable.

Cue Tolkien’s wizard, Gandalf the Grey, saying “You shall not pass!”

Years ago, I attended a UUA conference on what congregational life would look like in 2020. Ha! Completely wrong. Lots of good ideas, mind you, but no one then came even close to guessing how impassable the path ahead would become.

Nevertheless, the speakers at the conference urged us to do all the things that Shelter Rock’s ministers and congregational leaders are trying to do now—now that we are off the path, off a cliff, and stretching our arms out into wings.

The advice? Listen to the people. Find out what they need. Don’t resist the reality that things are different. Find ways to rise to new challenges.

*Continued on page 2*

## TOUCHSTONES

*Continued from page 1*

And, in the words of John Mercer's poem, "let the journey unfold...let its accidents become opportunities / let its challenges become triumphs / let it enter your heart and inhabit you / let it sanctify you."

We journey in community. We listen to one another. We stretch out our wings.

The challenges we face together become our triumphs—and we are sanctified.

## MINISTERIAL MESSAGE

As we begin another year in the life of our congregation, we wish to remind you of the availability of the many Caring Ministries at UUCSR. UUCSR offers members support through the Caring Committee, UUCSR Chaplains, Community Captains, the new Student Minister, and the ordained ministers.

The Ministry Team can be reached at [ministryteam@uucsr.org](mailto:ministryteam@uucsr.org) or by calling Assistant to the Ministers Kimberly Rossiter at 516.472.2941. Outside of regular office hours, please call the live answering service, 516.795.0329, which will put you in touch with the minister on call.

## MILESTONES

**We mourn the death of UUCSR member...** Joan Smith, who died on Monday, September 14, 2020. She was 85 years of age. Joan is survived by her husband, Allan Fishkind, and her son, Evan Smith. A memorial service will be planned for the spring. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to:

*Allan Fishkind  
93 Webster Ave  
Port Washington, NY 11050-3238*

**We share the sad news of...** the death of Elandria Williams, who served as UUA Co-Moderator, 2017-2020. A formidable UU leader, Elandria, was a lifelong member of the UU Church in Knoxville, TN. Over the past 20 years, Elandria served on the board of what was then known as the Thomas Jefferson District and on the district's Anti-Racism Transformation Team. Elandria also served as a trainer and coordinator for Groundwork, as the Southern Regional Organizing Consultant for the UUA Young Adult Office, as a Chrysalis Trainer on Chaplaincy and Leadership Development, as DRUUMM GA Coordinator for two different steering committees, and was a founding member of Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU). Elandria Williams was committed to Unitarian Universalism as a faith rooted in justice that calls us to transform ourselves and our world.

May we be inspired by Elandria's faithful leadership.

## SOULFUL SUNDOWN

**The Rev. Jennifer L. Brower  
with the Cosmic Orchestra**

**Friday, October 9, 2020**

**8:00 PM • LIVE**

**at [uucsr.org/worship](https://uucsr.org/worship)  
[facebook.com/SoulfulSundown](https://facebook.com/SoulfulSundown)**

**Where music resides at the heart  
of the religious experience**

## MINISTERS' PROGRAMS

- ◆ Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons, see presentations online ([uucsr.org/connect](https://uucsr.org/connect), Facebook and YouTube.)
- ◆ Tuesdays, 11:00 AM: [Living Alone During Physical Distancing](#) (note name change). October and November, once weekly. Additional Zoom gatherings for those living solo may be added as interest and scheduling permits.
- ◆ [Wednesday Afternoon Conversations](#), 2:00 PM: Zoom live presented by Rev. Jaye Brooks
- ◆ See page 7 of this Quest for Lifespan Religious Education/ Adult Faith Development programs:
  - Our Unitarian Universalist Principles
  - Book Discussion: *Jewish Voices in Unitarian Universalism*

**Sunday Services and Soulful Sundown Services  
Now as podcasts!**

Visit [www.uucsr.org/podcast](https://www.uucsr.org/podcast) or wherever you get your audio recordings. Listen at your convenience on Google, Spotify, TuneIn. More platforms added regularly.

**Sunday, November 1, 2020 11:00 AM  
Special Service of Remembrance  
Led jointly by UUCSR and the UU Congregation of Central  
Nassau in Garden City (UUCCN)**

Members of both congregations are invited to submit one photo of each deceased loved one to "lift up" in the Service. Normally we would build an "ofrenda" or shrine on which we would place flowers and photos and food. This year, we will have a slideshow instead.

Please submit images to Liaison for Ministerial Programs Lea Titza ([ltitza@uucsr.org](mailto:ltitza@uucsr.org)) by October 21, 2020. People in the photos will not be identified by name. A slideshow of photographs will be accompanied by a prayer/meditation.

## DEVELOPMENTAL MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

*The Rev. Jaye Brooks*



How should our love and creativity meet the world's deep need? How can we best support and encourage one another? What is our congregation's central purpose right now?

Join a Purpose Conversation to share your challenges and longing, your joy and your aspirations for our beloved community. Led by the

Transition Team as part of our developmental ministry journey, these congregation-wide, small-group conversations will help set Shelter Rock's priorities and strategic plan for the next 5-10 years.

Please select a time to attend via Zoom, and [register here](#). On the day of your meeting, please log in using the links below:

Saturday, October 10, 11:00 AM–1:00 PM  
[Zoom meeting HERE](#), Passcode: 137779

Tuesday, October 13, 5:00–7:00 PM  
[Zoom meeting HERE](#), Passcode: 217859

Saturday, October 17, 11:00 AM–1:00 PM  
[Zoom meeting HERE](#), Passcode: 116373

We know there's a lot going on in your lives. And that's the point. You are key to creating the future of Shelter Rock—a future that can minister effectively to all the new needs that have emerged since the beginning of 2020.

Will UUCSR's leadership pay attention? Yes! Remember—the central ideas that emerged from last fall's visioning conversations made their way into the budget for this year.

The Developmental Ministry Transition Team

Michelle Arrowood, Janet Bendowitz, Ami Bhalodkar,  
Paul Carbone, Mary Lardner, Klaus Masuch, and  
Christina Richer

## CONGREGATIONAL NOTICE

*Mark Hartman, President*

SUBJECT TO ACTION BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:  
All are welcome to a Congregational Hearing on recommended Bylaws changes.

Wednesday, October 28, 2020, 7:00 PM

[Join via Zoom here](#). Passcode: 928434

## DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (DAC)

*Richard Bock, Chair*



### News from your UU@UN Envoys

This year, the United Nations is commemorating its 75th birthday. The Unitarian Universalist Association at the UN (UU@UN) will be celebrating with a virtual event on Thursday, October 22, 2020, 6:00–7:30 PM. Registration for this special free event can be accessed at [“Our Goal of World Community” at www.uua.org](#).

In the current moment of simultaneous global, political, social, economic, and health crises, continued involvement could not be more critical. During the event, keynote speakers, including Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray, President, Unitarian Universalist Association and Bruce Knotts, Director, Unitarian Universalist Association at the UN will talk about how Unitarian Universalists can make our mark for global justice.

In addition, your envoys are collaborating with your ministers to present a UN worship service on Sunday, October 25, 2020. The theme will be the UN's 17th Sustainable Goal for Climate Justice. We have only this one plane, and we must take care to recognize the inherent rights and interdependence of all existence.

We look forward to joining you in these efforts.

Janet Bendowitz for the Denominational Affairs Committee  
DAC liaison to UU@UN

## NEWCOMERS

*Abigail Highland, Membership Coordinator*



Sundays • 10:40–11:00 AM via Zoom

Are you new to Shelter Rock? Stop by the Welcome Space before Sunday Services to say “Hi” and ask questions. We look forward to meeting you!

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91154123346>



## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST VEATCH PROGRAM AT SHELTER ROCK

Joan Minieri, Executive Director



### Protecting Democracy in Maine

Many of us are still reeling from the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg—for everything her life and career meant to progressing gender justice in this country, and also what it portends for the future of our highest court. With critically important issues set to come before the Supreme Court

in the next year—including health care, reproductive justice, immigrants' rights, and more—many Veatch grantees are working tirelessly to do all they can to influence the balance of power on the Supreme Court and in the U.S. Senate.

Veatch grantee [Maine People's Alliance](#) has been actively working to protect the integrity of the election in the state, while also increasing voter turnout. As part of an intensive public education campaign, the organization is ensuring voters understand the importance of the election in the state, and that the outcome will have national implications.

Their non-partisan civic engagement work is ensuring voters in the state are registered, understand the issues at stake in the election, and have a plan to vote safely amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Maine People's Alliance has hired a team of 23 canvassers who have been contacting voters every night since August. In just the past month, this team has already spoken to over 1,300 voters, educating them on ways to request a mail-in ballot, or to make plans to vote in person, safely. Through [twice weekly](#) phone and text banks they are increasing the number of voters they can reach before election day.

Maine People's Alliance has a robust media arm in the form of [MaineBeacon.com](#), which features online articles and podcasts. This successful media strategy is keeping voters informed and engaged. Their articles just on the state of the Senate race, for instance, reached 30,758 viewers in the past month, and generated another 6,137 engagements (likes, shares, comments). The group uses this media resource, as well, to help protect the integrity of the electoral process. Several articles report on the state's progress towards meeting the increased demand for mail-in voting this year. Maine's Secretary of State Office estimates that between [60 to 65 percent](#) of voters will cast an absentee ballot. The group is working to ensure voters who requested absentee ballots actually received them, return them as quickly as possible, and then track them via a [newly created online database](#) to ensure their vote is counted.

For those who will vote in person, they are making sure enough polling places are open and functioning to meet the demand. Of particular concern is having enough poll workers—a job most often filled by older Americans who are at higher risk of complicating factors due to COVID-19. During the 2018 election, more than 60 percent of polling workers were 60 or over. Maine People's Alliance has been active in [recruiting young people](#) in the state to work these jobs instead, helping keep poll sites open.

Maine People's Alliance's civic engagement work is not limited to increasing voter turnout—nor will the group's efforts to protect and expand democracy stop after the coming election, regardless of the outcome. Whether it be efforts to mobilize its members in support of [racial justice reforms](#), pressuring elected officials to take action on [climate change](#), or increasing support for [affordable housing](#) initiatives, Maine People's Alliance provides meaningful opportunities for civic participation all year long.

Maine People's Alliance is just one of many grantees engaged in critically important civic engagement work this year. To learn about similar work in other states being waged by Veatch grantees, be sure to [sign up for our news updates](#)—our next will feature a roundup of electoral-organizing work all across the country.



*The Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock provides support for efforts within the religious and spiritual mission of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock where their purposes are best served by outside agencies acting under the Veatch Program and the Congregation.*

## SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Claire Deroche, Social Justice Coordinator

### Harvest the Power with UU the Vote

Since January 2020, when we held three UU the Vote training sessions, we have been participating with our siblings in the faith in efforts to get out the vote and urging citizens to exercise their most fundamental right. We've shared voting information through post cards and letters. We've staffed phone banks and text banks. We've staffed UU the Vote Office Hours. All activities will culminate in a final push beginning Wednesday, October 21.



According to Nicole Pressley, National UU the Vote Organizer, “Harvest the Power Week of Action is a call to faithful action and deep organizing.... We have witnessed remarkable sustained protests to declare that Black Lives Matter, to fight fascism, and to combat police violence. Unitarian Universalists are building partnerships and bringing our values into the public square in solidarity with justice movements that seek collective liberation. We have activated 450 congregations, thousands of volunteers, and reached out to 1.3 million voters across the US.” Ms. Pressley continues: “Today, the stakes are high. But today, we show up. We show up in larger numbers. We show up more rooted in our faith. We show up declaring Fannie Lou Hamer’s words, ‘none of us are free, until all of us are free.’ We show up to follow the leadership of those most impacted, to build political agency alongside our beloved siblings.” We show up to HARVEST THE POWER!

During this week, we have been invited to host a phone bank. We get to choose the date and time, the state that we will call, and run the event. Will you support the planning of this event? There is something for each one of you reading this to do. We need a group coordinator to manage the project; a Zoom host to start and run Zoom during the phonebank; a communications coordinator to send out reminder emails and promote the event; and phone bank staff for volunteer training and answering tech questions during the event, and phone bank support volunteers who run the training before calling starts and answer tech questions during the phone bank.

UU the Vote has provided a detailed [tool kit](#) that will help us plan and execute a successful event. If you'd like to be part of the planning team for this important event, please contact Social Justice Coordinator Claire Deroche at 516.472.2977 or [cderoche@uucsr.org](mailto:cderoche@uucsr.org) ASAP. Let's do our part to Harvest the Power!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Claire Deroche, Social Justice Coordinator

For further information about any of these announcements, please contact Social Justice Coordinator Claire Deroche at [cderoche@uucsr.org](mailto:cderoche@uucsr.org) or 516.472.2977.

**Elections 2020:** To participate in the 2020 General Election, New Yorkers must register to vote by Friday, October 9. [Confirm your registration here.](#)

New Yorkers have four ways to vote: **Vote Early:** (Sat. 10/24–Sun. 11/1) Find early voting sites in Suffolk [here](#); Nassau sites [here](#); and Queens sites [here](#). **Vote By Mail:** Request a ballot by October 27 ([online, by email, phone, mail, or fax](#)).

When applying due to COVID-19, select “Temporary illness or physical disability” as the reason. (This includes the potential for spreading or contracting COVID-19 illness.) **Voting Absentee** is a two-step process: you must request the ballot and then complete and return your ballot. [You may request the form now.](#) Follow all instructions on the ballot. Return immediately. **Vote In-Person** on Election Day (Tues. 11/3, 6 AM–9 PM): Voters are assigned to one poll site only. Find your poll site [here](#). If you have questions, [call your local board of elections](#).



**North Carolina UU the Vote Weekly Phone Bank**, Thursdays until October 29, 6:00–8:00 PM on Zoom. Join the UU Justice Ministry of North Carolina for a phone bank in partnership with Reclaim Our Vote and the North Carolina NAACP. Register [here](#). Prior to attending the phone bank, review this [Google Doc](#) which has brief instructions. Find other UU the Vote opportunities at <https://www.uuthevote.org/get-involved/>

**Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Work, Virtual Discussion with Dulce Rojas**, Campaign Coordinator for Voto Latino, Friday, October 9, 6:00 PM. Sponsored by the LIAC Social Justice Roundtable. Click the link to register and receive the Zoom address:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92346823572?pwd=S3lHNFAYQThKU1UvQoJCkklUTN3dz09>

**UU the Vote National Call-in to Voters in Wisconsin** Wednesday, October 21, 7:00–9:00 PM. Join UUs across Wisconsin and the country as we call voters leading up to the November election. We need all hands on deck in this crucial moment to reach voters in Wisconsin—getting them all they need to vote safely and answering questions about the changing election details. [Register here](#) to receive your link to the event. Training and tech support will be available throughout the event.

**Social Justice Committee Virtual Meeting**, Wednesday, October 21, 7:00 PM: Please note that this is a new Zoom link. It will be good for the rest of the Congregational year. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/92346823572?pwd=S3lHNFAYQThKU1UvQoJCkklUTN3dz09> Passcode: 889751 One tap mobile: +16465588656, 92346823572, Passcode: 889751



## FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

*Cathi Zillmann, Chair*



### Membership and Pledge Drive

In this weird year of change and uncertainty, one thing has become clear: at UUCSR, we're all in this together. And that's the theme for this year's Membership Renewal Pledge campaign: Together. Look how we've stayed together and encouraged one another. And in whatever is ahead, what can we accomplish together?

It is through the annual pledge drive that membership in the congregation is renewed. Last year, Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore observed that in membership, "We have chosen to hold onto each other and to move forward together."



I have been a Unitarian Universalist since 1987. I have never been more grateful to have a spiritual home than I am now. I am truly grateful to move forward in this uncertain time with you by my side.

Membership renewal is half of the annual business we accomplish during this drive. The other half is making a pledge of financial support to the congregation. Yes, this congregation does need financial support. The congregation does so much good work, and donating together can amplify the power of an individual gift.

Given our change to online togetherness, we anticipate that most of you will want to manage your pledges online. To that purpose, the website is being revamped. More details will follow.

Whether you are comfortable online, or prefer a paper form to complete, or a phone call, we hope that pledging and membership renewal will be easy for you.

Thank you so much,

Cathi Zillmann  
Chair, Financial Development Committee

## LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

*Carson Jones, Lifespan Religious Education Coordinator*



On Sunday, October 11, Religious Education families will gather outdoors to learn about Sukkot, the Jewish celebration of the harvest.

We will build and decorate the sukkah (a temporary structure in which Jews lived during the harvest season), hear some great music, and appreciate the bounty of the harvest and the blessings of shelter and

community.

Pre-registration is required to attend as participation is limited under current health precautions.

## Sukkot Festival

October 11-25, 2020



Please bring a donation for the food drive

Registered RE families have received an e-mail invitation earlier this week, and families who wish to receive this and all future event invitations are welcome to sign-up their family for 2020-2021 Religious Education here: [www.uucsr.org/RE](http://www.uucsr.org/RE)

In keeping with this year's RE theme of JUSTICE, the Sukkot Festival marks the beginning of our two-week Food Drive to benefit a Long Island food pantry. On Sundays, October 11 and 25, from 12:00-4:00 PM, and Tuesdays-Thursday, October 13-15 and 20-22, 9:30 AM-4:00 PM, canvas bins will be available for dropping off non-perishable food donations near the entrance to the Administration Offices at UUCSR (or just inside the entrance on rainy days). The sukkah will remain up nearby in the courtyard for two weeks for all to enjoy so be sure to visit when delivering your donation! We thank you all for your generosity.





### Adult Faith Development

Please register.  
Contact Jessica Pond  
([jpond@uucsr.org](mailto:jpond@uucsr.org) or 516.472.2914)

### ♦ Our Unitarian Universalist Principles

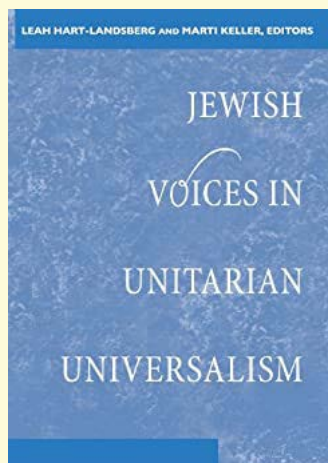
Let's come together to discuss our UU Principles. One-hour sessions are held on Mondays through November 9, 7:00 PM, led by Rev. Dr. Natalie M. Fenimore.

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)  
Passcode: 340897

Unitarian Universalists affirm Seven Principles, grounded in the humanistic teachings of the world's religions. Our spirituality is unbounded, drawing from scripture and science, nature and philosophy, personal experience and ancient tradition. The Seven Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association grew out of the grassroots of our congregations and were affirmed democratically.



### ♦ Book Discussion: *Jewish Voices in Unitarian Universalism*



Examine Jewish belief and practice within contemporary Unitarian Universalism with Rev. Dr. Natalie M. Fenimore and Student Minister Alia Shinbrough.

The book is available on [Amazon](#) or the [UUA InSpirit Bookstore](#)

Wednesdays,  
October 7 and 14, 7:00 PM  
[Join Zoom Meeting here](#)  
Passcode: 623660

### LGBTQ+ Lens on Domestic Violence

Join us for our annual domestic violence presentation Sunday, October 18, 2:00 PM, [Live on Zoom](#)  
Facilitated by Winterflower Robinson, certified domestic violence counselor.

This year's focus is domestic violence and the LGBTQ+ community. There will be a guest speaker and a short skit by one of our own UUCSR LGBTQ+ Sub-committee members.

### Dramatic Readings

Tony Award winning play, *Indecent*, by Paula Vogel  
Saturday, October 24  
7:00 PM, [Live on Zoom](#)



## Dramatic Readings

Join us in our continuing venture in reading plays: some old, some new, comedy, drama, farce. PDF copies of the play are e-mailed to participants and hard copies can be requested by mail at least ten days in advance of the reading. Please contact Jessica Pond at [jpond@uucsr.org](mailto:jpond@uucsr.org) or call 516.472.2914 to RSVP and request your copy.

Parts will be assigned via e-mail and on the night of the reading. After the reading, we discuss the play, the author, relevance and interpretation. If you don't want to be an actor, feel free to attend and share in the discussion.

*Indecent* recounts the controversy of the play, *God of Vengeance*, by Sholem Asch, a romance between two women that, upon its eventual production on Broadway in 1923, had the entire cast arrested on grounds of obscenity. All are welcome to come experience this beautiful, heart-breaking tale of the struggle for freedom of love and artistic expression.

## Soulful Songs and Stories



Get PDFs of songs and stories emailed to you on first and third Fridays. They don't fit a formula—songs range from popular to jazz to classical, both new and old; stories range from short quotes to longer pieces. The next date, October 16, will be about substance: "Is there any there there?" featuring "Shallow," by Lady Gaga & Bradley Cooper, "The Trappings," by Goat Rodeo, and a long but easy reading escape story from two kinds of prisons involving a misbegotten romance. This time, rather than offering statements, we have questions and music to contemplate them by: four pieces by Mozart, from classical to jazz, from the concert hall to the street. If you missed any of the past PDFs, you can find them at [www.j.mp/uucsr-sss](http://www.j.mp/uucsr-sss). Get on the mailing list by registering with Jessica Pond ([jpond@uucsr.org](mailto:jpond@uucsr.org) or 516.472.2914).

Alice Giordano and Steve Marston



## GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

*Ellen Councill, Chair*

### Keeping Forests and Trees Standing

One of the best defenses against global warming and the climate crisis is our trees and forests. They absorb greenhouse gases and help biodiversity. Indigenous people depend upon them for life and livelihood. However, corporations, banks, and consumers disregard the impact of their destruction for profit or product as carbon dioxide and other gases are released. Indeed, we are choking life everywhere.



Forests are a natural trapping technology. They absorb about half of global greenhouse gases annually. Doubly beneficial are rain forests. They trap condensation, creating low-hanging clouds which deflect sunlight back to them. Nevertheless, countries like Brazil are purposely burning their rain forests to create farmland. As the world's largest exporter of beef, plus the growing of soy and corn, these stored greenhouse gases are released increasing global warming. In Indonesia, to acquire palm oil, the peat lands account for millions of hectares of tropical rainforest destruction. Other contributing factors worldwide are illegal logging and poaching, road construction, mineral and fossil fuel extraction, as in Canada.

Governments, companies, investors are the beneficiaries of forest destruction. Although 1.6 billion people worldwide and animals live near or in them, the plight of forests is ignored. Indigenous territories account for 80 percent of our biodiversity, yet covering only 22 percent of the world's land. The Rainforest Action Network (RAN) is trying to help by promoting the notion of "zero net deforestation," and pinpointing countries and companies most responsible. Indonesia, the Amazon, and Congo Basin head the list by destroying the oldest ecosystems on earth for profit.

In 2020, RAN also launched the Keep Forests Standing Campaign. JPMorgan Chase, and companies like General Mills, Nestle, Pepsi, Dunkin' brands, Kraft, Heinz, and ConAgra Foods were targeted. They "promised" to adopt responsible policies. But what about replanting efforts? These cannot work unless farmers and Big Ag stop degrading the soil. We must promote organic practices that nourish the soil. Then biodiversity will reemerge and trees can be replanted and established. This solution includes getting agricultural stakeholders to end slash-and-burn-practices and oppose forest destruction. We must support tree revitalization just as Africa did, using quick growing, hardy "pioneer" trees.

In the United States, the Arbor Day Foundation's Trees for America program helps replenish trees everywhere: towns, cities, parks, and streets. But the rainforest, "the lungs of the earth," needs our attention. We must boycott products from countries and companies responsible as well as divest from them.

Elaine Peters for the Green Sanctuary Committee

## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

*Gerry Matusiewicz, Chair*

### An Update to the Firepit Project

The firepit, located at the edge of the wooded area behind the Worship Room had been damaged by storms and deteriorated by weather. Chris Nielsen has been working for the past year on an Eagle Scout project to restore the firepit for use by the congregation. But, like so many things, his project was delayed by COVID-19. Let's help Chris complete this project.

## LAST CHANCE TO CONTRIBUTE

Eagle Scout candidate Chris Nielsen has begun construction of UUCSR's new outdoor fire ring! The project must be completed by Chris' upcoming 18th birthday to qualify for Eagle Scout rank.



Completion is scheduled by late October, but funding remains behind schedule. Chris has raised over \$1,300 independently of UUCSR. Today, donations of \$650 from members and friends will complete the \$2,000 necessary for the quality installation that has been planned for over a year.

### Donate Today

\$650 will also demonstrate support for a young man who grew up at UUCSR and whose parents are UUCSR members.

Donations will be gratefully received via:

- Checks made out to UUCSR with "Eagle Scout Project" in the memo line, mailed to UUCSR, 48 Shelter Rock Rd, Manhasset, NY 11030
- PayPal using [donate@uucsr.org](mailto:donate@uucsr.org) in the account name field.

Thank you for your support and to members who have already donated.





### Nuns on the Bus and New Hour for Women and Children

There are virtual plays, art classes, church services, political rallies, and exercise classes. Thank heaven for all of them at this time. Now, there's a virtual trip by the Nuns on the Bus. You may remember when Sister Simone Campbell of Nuns on the Bus addressed the Democratic National Convention in 2016. She reminded the audience that we ARE our brothers' keepers. We ARE our sisters' keepers. Sister Simone Campbell is the Executive Director of NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice.

This new, seventh annual trip will deliver the message: Who We Elect Matters. The virtual tour will register voters and discuss "equally sacred priorities" like racial justice, economic equality, health care access, immigration reform, and the housing crisis. Sister Simone said, "We must elect leaders who can empathize with the most marginalized among us, understand the urgent need to keep one another safe from disease, end structural racism, fix our broken immigration system, support social programs that pull families out of poverty, and expand health care access for all people." At the rally, Speaker Nancy Pelosi remarked, "I've always said thank god for the nuns. Without the nuns, we would have never had passed the Affordable Care Act. Without the nuns, we would have never saved the Affordable Care Act."

The tour will conduct site visits designed to showcase issues that are at stake in the election. On September 22, a visit was made with New Hour for Women and Children, an organization that our Women's Group has been connected to for a number of years. New Hour was founded on Long Island to provide meaningful support to current and formerly incarcerated women, their children and families. You may have seen the women and children baking cookies at holiday time, enjoying lunch, crafts, and a visit from Santa in our Social Hall. You may have attended our end-of-year Luncheon and Fashion Show that featured some of us and some of them modeling thrift shop clothes. When we found out that Nuns on the Bus selected New Hour for their first site visit, we were delighted. Executive Director Serena Liguori and Pam Neely were interviewed by Sister Simone. They described the needs of the women who had no available substantive programs to assist them while incarcerated or when released, with the number one goal of reuniting with their children. They described their 15-week Emerge class that is about empowerment. I can remember attending a very emotional graduation where the graduates expressed their gratitude. I recall one graduate who was especially grateful that Serena wouldn't give up on her. Serena related that 9 out of 10 of the women are victims of domestic violence and mental health issues. New Hour ministers to the women and children in need with a 2 percent recidivism rate as opposed to more than 65 percent for those without help. Sister Simone expressed that she would not have suspected that these needs exist on Long Island. Maybe even you had no idea.

We wish the Nuns on the Bus a very successful virtual trip with very real results. We celebrate the work that New Hour does for traumatized and punished women and children on Long Island.

## Women's Group *Book Series*

### 2020-2021 SCHEDULE



The Book Series is an opportunity to gather and discuss recently read books. A new book has been chosen for each month. Please contact Staff Liaison, Sharyn Esposito to learn more (sesposito@uucsr.org or 516.472.2960).

### **Third Fridays, monthly, at 3:30 PM**

Normally held at UUCSR, but currently being held as Zoom sessions until further notice.

Fridays	Book Titles
October 16, 2020	<i>The Dutch House</i>
November 20, 2020	<i>All the Flowers in Paris</i>
December 18, 2020	<i>Apeirogon</i>
January 15, 2021	<i>The Peabody Sisters</i>
February 19, 2021	<i>A Woman Is No Man</i>
March 19, 2021	<i>The Book of Longings</i>
April 16, 2021	<i>We Are All Completely Besides Ourselves</i>
May 21, 2021	<i>The Sea Wife</i>
June 18, 2021	<i>The Water Dancer</i>

**ART COMMITTEE**  
*Tinna Kopelow, Chair*



*What does inspiration mean to you?  
Where do you find inspiration?  
How do you use inspiration to replenish  
yourself and your creativity?*

You are invited to share something that has inspired you. It might be a work of art, a poem, music, or a feeling inspired by spending time in nature.

Friday, October 9, 2020 | 2:00–4:00 PM

Click to register:

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJckfu-qgToiHNxb3liMNsPRAObMsoetp2ht>

Instructions for the Zoom meeting will be sent to you via email. Save the email!

To share your display pieces, which is optional and may be paintings or other kinds of artwork, please email jpg photos (limit 4) to Elaine Corrao AFTER you have registered for the meeting ([ecorrao@uucsr.org](mailto:ecorrao@uucsr.org)). All are welcome.

Deadline for artwork: 4:00 PM, Thursday, October 8, 2020.

Shirley Arlt for the Art Committee



**MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS COMMITTEE**  
*Rachel Zampino, Chair*



18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

**CABARET**

**AT THE ROCK**

with Richard Bock as Music Director

NEW DATE: Saturday, November 14, 2020

**Curtain Up for Cabaret XVIII!**

Do you like pickles? Tune in to hear what Maria and Frank Doyle do to pickles while playing four-hands piano selections! Barry Nobel's nimble fingers at the piano, Heidi Warm's mellow clarinet melody, and Harriet McKenna's gentle harp music are just a few of the instrumental selections planned for our virtual 18th edition of *Cabaret at the Rock*.

Raising several thousands of dollars for the Ed Miller Memorial Music Scholarship Fund is the goal of mother/daughter singers Karin and Fiona Lyngstad-Hughes, Hallie Lipman, singing duo Cat Ripley and Ruth Reeves, Suzanne Viverito, and many other Shelter Rock members. Yes, all your favorite cast members will be there and a few surprises, too.

Most importantly, get your checkbooks out to make your contributions—make checks payable to UUCSR with “Cabaret XVIII” in the memo line.

FLASH: Because the 2020 Cabaret is a totally virtual event, the Cabaret Planning Team, recognizing the technical challenges of video-recording every part of the presentation, has rescheduled the show to Saturday evening, November 14, 2020. Watch for more information in the next issue of the *Quest*.

Richard Bock  
Cabaret Music Director

**Be a Music Insider!**

Did you know that Music and Performing Arts at Shelter Rock has its own Facebook page?

Visit [Facebook.com/MusicatSR](https://www.facebook.com/MusicatSR) to FOLLOW the page and see special

CHATS (interviews by Music Director Stephen Michael Smith), performances, and musical excerpts from Worship Services, concerts, and more.

**UPCOMING:**

Friday, Oct. 23, 7:00 PM, Facebook Live Chat with Ken Hughes  
Friday, Oct. 30, 7:00 PM, Live Chat with Caitlin McKechny

## ONLINE/VIRTUAL EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see [UUCSR.org/events](https://uucsr.org/events) for additional details on all programs, INCLUDING DIRECT LINKS TO ACCESS.  
See [LIACUU.org](https://liacuu.org) for other area congregations.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020

6:00 PM Journeys: A UU Identity Group  
7:00 PM Book discussion: *Jewish Voices in Unitarian Universalism*

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020

6:00 PM Virtual UU the Vote Weekly Phone Bank  
7:30 PM Virtual Choir Gathering

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2020

12:00 PM *Great Books - Great Conversations*  
2:00 PM Creativity Conversation: Where do you find inspiration?  
2:00 PM Meditative Moment  
6:00 PM Get Out the Vote Work, Virtual Discussion with Dulce Rojas, Campaign Coordinator Voto Latino  
7:00 PM LGBTQ+ ZOOM Gathering  
8:00 PM Soulful Sundown: *The Future Beckons*

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2020

11:00 AM Purpose Conversation with Rev. Jaye Brooks

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020

9:00 AM UUCSR Jazz Ensemble with Dan Pratt via Zoom  
10:00 AM Online Family Yoga with Suzanne!  
10:30 AM Young People's Virtual Choir Rehearsal  
10:40 AM The Welcome Space  
11:00 AM Sunday Worship: *Clouds*, Rev. Jaye Brooks  
12:00 PM Virtual Coffee Hour  
1:00 PM Outdoor RE Family Sukkot Festival  
1:00 PM All Congregation BBQ / Tailgate  
1:30 PM First Sunday Small Group Ministry Meeting

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020

8:00 AM BUILDING CLOSED-Holiday  
9:30 AM Medical Qigong for Senior Health Online Classes  
2:00 PM Meditation and Poetry

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020

11:00 AM Living Alone During Physical Distancing  
3:00 PM Art Committee Meeting  
5:00 PM Purpose Conversation with Rev. Jaye Brooks  
6:00 PM Nominating Committee  
7:30 PM Program Council Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020

11:00 AM Crafting for Sanity and Community Zoom Get-Together  
2:00 PM Wednesday Afternoon Conversations  
2:00 PM Messages  
3:00 PM COVID-19 Contingency Fund Task Force Meeting  
3:30 PM Women's Group Board Zoom Mtg  
4:00 PM Kundalini Yoga

6:00 PM Journeys: A UU Identity Group  
7:00 PM Book discussion: *Jewish Voices in Unitarian Universalism*  
7:00 PM Developmental Ministry Transition Team  
7:00 PM Halloween Bedtime Stories (virtual)  
7:30 PM Small Group Ministry Second Wednesday PM Meeting

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020

6:00 PM Virtual UU the Vote Phone Bank  
7:30 PM Virtual Choir Gathering

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2020

12:00 PM Great Books - Great Conversations  
2:00 PM Meditative Moment  
3:30 PM WG Book Series Zoom Session  
7:00 PM LGBTQ+ Zoom Gathering

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2020

11:00 AM Purpose Conversation with Rev. Jaye Brooks

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020

9:00 AM UUCSR Jazz Ensemble with Dan Pratt via Zoom  
9:00 AM Buildings & Grounds Meeting  
9:30 AM Small Group Ministry Second Sunday AM Meeting  
10:00 AM Online Family Yoga with Suzanne!  
10:30 AM Young People's Virtual Choir Rehearsal  
10:40 AM The Welcome Space  
11:00 AM Online RE Classes  
11:00 AM Sunday Worship: *What's At Stake?*, Alia Shinbrough, Student Minister  
12:00 PM Virtual Coffee Hour  
1:00 PM Just and Joyful: Online Children's Worship for All Ages  
2:00 PM An LGBTQ+ Lens on Domestic Violence

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

9:30 AM Medical Qigong for Senior Health Online Classes  
2:00 PM Meditation and Poetry  
6:00 PM Membership Committee  
7:00 PM *Our Unitarian Universalist Principles*  
7:30 PM Music and Performing Arts Committee Meeting

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020

11:00 AM Living Alone During Physical Distancing  
3:00 PM Virtual NAMI Criminal Justice Meeting  
7:00 PM Monitoring Wildlife at UUCSR with Seatuck  
7:15 PM Board of Trustees Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020

9:30 AM Wednesday INN Cooking (formerly Saturday)

11:00 AM Crafting for Sanity and Community Zoom Get-Together  
12:30 PM Women Talk Daytime Zoom Meeting  
2:00 PM Wednesday Afternoon Conversations  
2:00 PM Messages  
4:00 PM Kundalini Yoga  
7:00 PM Green Sanctuary Virtual Committee Meeting  
7:00 PM Social Justice Committee Meeting  
7:00 PM UU the Vote National Call-in to Voters in Wisconsin

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

1:00 PM Bridge & Mahjong Group  
6:00 PM Virtual UU the Vote Phone Bank  
6:00 PM Virtual Event Honoring the UN's 75th Anniversary  
7:15 PM Board of Trustees Meeting  
7:30 PM Virtual Choir Gathering

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2020

12:00 PM Great Books - Great Conversations  
2:00 PM Meditative Moment  
6:30 PM Together to End Solitary Confinement Virtual Program  
7:00 PM LGBTQ+ Zoom Gathering  
7:00 PM Facebook Live Chat with Ken Hughes

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2020

7:00 PM Dramatic Readings

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020

9:00 AM UUCSR Jazz Ensemble with Dan Pratt via Zoom  
10:00 AM Online Family Yoga with Suzanne!  
10:30 AM Young People's Virtual Choir Rehearsal  
10:40 AM The Welcome Space  
11:00 AM Worship: *People, Power, Planet*  
12:00 PM Virtual Coffee Hour  
1:00 PM Outdoor RE Family Halloween Party

*The Quest* is published twice a month, except once each in July and August. Copies are available in the UUCSR Lower Lobby, <https://uucsr.org/on-demand/quest-newsletter>, and via email. Sign up for email at <https://uucsr.org/on-demand>.

*The Quest* Mission is to connect readers to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, to Unitarian Universalism, and to each other.

*The Quest* is produced by staff members Jennifer Sappell and Linda McCarthy, with the invaluable assistance of volunteers: Claire Z. Bock, Maxine Dangler, Steve Marston, and Jessica K. Vega. Submissions: [communications@uucsr.org](mailto:communications@uucsr.org)



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October 7, 2020

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**Vice President:** Jana North

**Secretary:** Toni Logue

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Brigitte Mueller

Rebecca Smith

Marsha Stone

Rick Van Dyke

Jane Weiler

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
**FIRST CLASS MAIL DATED MATERIAL**

Next Quest: Wednesday, October 21, 2020 | Deadline for Content: Thursday, October 15, 2020

**The Green Sanctuary Committee at UUCSR presents**



**This Zoom presentation will focus on:**

- ▶ Surveying wildlife at UUCSR
- ▶ Findings on the birds, vernal pond, overall health of our property
- ▶ Future Surveys
- ▶ Status of coyotes in Whitney Woods
- ▶ Co-existence with the coyotes

## Monitoring Wildlife at UUCSR

an introduction by  
**Seatuck Environmental Association**

**Tuesday, October 20, 2020**

**7:00 pm via Zoom**

Join Zoom Event:

<https://zoom.us/j/96391592139?pwd=SVhxcHRKLOJLTjh2ejRlc1VmaHI5UT09>

Meeting ID: 963 9159 2139

Passcode: 968274

Dial in: 1 646 558 8656

with **Enrico Nardone, John Turner,**  
and **Mike Bottini** of Seatuck