Awakening and Unfinished  As we continue to open our hearts to the unfolding mysteries of Spring, we gather this morning to witness the moments of wonder present in our daily lives—lives still awaking, unfinished. Cassandra Montenegro is a UU candidate for ministry who studies at Harvard Divinity School.*

Blooming and Belonging Easter Family Service  Gather for a service full of music and the joy of being together to welcome spring—the season of awakening and rebirth. Easter Egg Hunt follows the service with opportunities for family photos with the Easter Bunny. Membership Renewal Kick-Off afterward with lunch under a tent. All who renew will take away a plant from the vintage F-100 flower truck, “Baby Blue.” *

Awakening to Hope  Climate change is real, and a real threat. But in small ways all over the planet, people are acting to resist and push back—to renew and restore the Earth. These acts of planetary creativity and vision are cause for awakening to hope.*

On the heels of the touching, Sunday, March 27, 2022 Service, The Unexpected Gifts of COVID, crafted and delivered by our teens (our Senior Seminar students) who were mentored by UUCSR members Scott Barbey and Bill Carmody and staffers Jessica Pond and Carson Jones, I have been meditating upon the words of author Laura Kelly Fanucci, who writes the syndicated column, “Faith at Home.”

This is an edited version of her work, “Never Take for Granted.”

When this is over, may we never again take for granted

A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at the store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theater
Friday night out
Communal prayers
A routine checkup
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself.

When this ends may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be we were called to be we hoped to be and may we stay that way — better for each other because of the worst.

* Worship Services are in-person, AND livestreamed! Masks are encouraged and required for singing. Livestreams available on uucsr.org/worship, Facebook, and YouTube. Closed captions and podcasts available afterward.

The Sunday Morning Experience is available online using just one link! Beginning at 10:30 AM, join via Zoom, then stay for live Worship Service and Coffee Hour. Join HERE.
### A Message From the President

At the last Strategic Plan Task Force meeting, a question came up that I think speaks to much of our activity at UUCSR.

Does programming at Shelter Rock grow our spirituality and satisfy our desire for community?

As a congregation, we have identified Deeper Spirituality and Beloved Community as two of our most important goals for the next five years. They are closely related and widely overlapping and are both a needed and necessary aspect to our lives at UUCSR.

There was a time when Sunday worship was seen as the center of spiritual life at Shelter Rock. Coffee hour and the UU Café allowed us to gather informally in community afterwards and scheduling business meetings on Sunday was discouraged. Now that Zoom has allowed us to completely separate our ability to do the business of the congregation virtually, we can intentionally plan how to deepen spirituality and meet in beloved community in new and creative ways. This is a great time to reassess how we develop worship and program in the future.

Soulful Sundown has made Friday night an accepted and welcome time for worship in addition to Sunday mornings. Adding dinner and music to a less traditional Worship Service has inspired us on the Strategic Plan Task Force to reimagine every Friday night as a time for deepening spirituality and increasing beloved community. We have heard many inspirational and creative ideas from members of the congregation for building on what Soulful Sundown has started.

Sunday mornings will always be an important time for worship at UUCSR, but in addition to Soulful Sundown continuing once a month on Friday nights, we hope to offer new and inspiring options for worship and community every Friday night.

Suggestions for new ways to combine music, performance, and small group discussions along with worship have come from every corner of the congregation. We hope that families and younger members will find Friday nights to be a welcome time to gather at UUCSR. Ideas for Dinner Worship, services developed by and for the youth of our congregation, and a variety of music programming, are just some of the suggestions we are hearing.

Change can be hard and unsettling, but we hope that by building a Friday night worship program along side Soulful Sundown, and maintaining a vibrant and spiritual Sunday morning worship experience, that members of the congregation feel heard. The worship and programming of the congregation should reflect and honor all our members, and new and creative ways to come together spiritually should enhance us all.

### Milestones

**We send healing thoughts...** to Jetty Purohit as she recovers from a fractured hip at Stern Rehab Center. Cards and notes are welcomed and may be sent to her at: Henriette (Jetty) Purohit, Northwell Health Stern Family Center for Rehabilitation, 330 Community Drive, Room 233W, Manhasset, NY 11030.

**We celebrate with...** Hugh Stephens who was recently the guest of honor at the Royal Norwegian Embassy’s 14th Annual Henry Bacon Seminar in Washington, DC. Upon returning home from this honor, Hugh celebrated his 98th birthday on April 3, 2022.

**We send best wishes to...** Jean and Bruce Smith who have relocated from their home of many years. Their new address is Smith Family, 4517 Salisbury Park Drive, East Meadow, NY 11554.

**We celebrate with...** Ronnie Arond who will be 98 years of age on April 11. Congratulations.

### Touchstones

I so appreciated the words and music of our youth, having sought to recognize and name for myself, and my son, and in my ministry the gifts of COVID throughout the pandemic.

Now, I hope that we—and the communities in which we live and move—will be intentional in maintaining our hard-earned clarity. I hope that we will make it a personal and collective practice to focus upon and appreciate what is good. I hope, in our eagerness to move on, that we will not push this experience away so quickly that we again take for granted all that was once, and will again be, routine.

As we inch toward warmer weather, with new life bursting forth this spring, may our fresh insights and awareness of the gifts in the mundane blossom into more meaningful, more joyful, less pressured living. May the worst, as Fanucci calls the pandemic, point us to the best in ourselves and in life.

With faith and hope,
Rev. Jennifer

### Thank You, Rev. Jennifer Brower

Paul Carbone, Angela Cesa, Melinda Nasti

Call for Video Content for a Tribute to Rev. Jennifer Brower

In celebration of Rev. Jennifer Brower’s 20 years of service and her retirement at the end of June, the congregation is creating a video montage for her. Please record your brief farewell words on a phone or Zoom or other platform. Individuals or groups may upload content HERE. Video recording tips are available HERE.
DAC General Assembly (GA) 2022 Update
Nine GA delegates are preparing for the 2022 General Assembly in Portland, OR. Orientation sessions are scheduled for later this month. Portions of the five-day event will be available to view online on the UUA website and social media.

UU Asked Me
Question: Are all eleven LIAC congregations still operating?
Answer: As of now, all are operating, but for a few, the future is uncertain. The pandemic and declining membership are the two main reasons leading to decreased financial stability to support ministry and staff; boards are forced to make harsh decisions.

Long Island Area Council News (LIAC)
Director Matt Barish of the UU Fellowship of Huntington indicated that the concept of a Sophia Fahs Camp might be over unless there is a groundswell of registrants in the next few weeks. The pandemic prevented the camp from taking place the past two years, he said. Barish said 30 to 35 youth have expressed interest in coming to upstate Camp Echo this summer and most of them are not from Long Island.

He said if he does not get at least 90 registrants, the camp will have to fold. “We have to make our decision in the next few weeks,” he said. “We’re either all in or all out. We’re short nurses, program directors, people in activity roles... This is the tipping point in my mind. Do we transfer leadership outside of LIAC?”

Barish said he would report to LIAC’s Board in May with a go or no-go decision. He can be reached at 617.840.4844 or sophiafahs@gmail.com. “It’s one of the hardest things in my life if I can’t resurrect this camp,” he said. “I don’t want it to end. My hope is that somehow we’ll bring it to fruition. I just don’t know if it’s possible.”

LIAC Board vice president Marian Russo of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Great South Bay (Sayville) is planning a program on Alzheimer’s disease on April 23, at 11:00 am. Informational flyer is available HERE. Register HERE. LIAC will run another program May 4, at 7:00 pm on advocating for the 8th Principle and how to implement it after ratification. Register HERE. Both programs are open to all.

UUCSR liaisons to LIAC Jim and Lynn Smith, who served for the past four years, will end their service on June 30. They would like to invite all interested in replacing them to attend the May and June LIAC meetings. Meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month at 3:00 PM. The liaisons also make a report to the UUCSR DAC committee on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM.

Liaisons to LIAC Lynn & Jim Smith for the Denominational Affairs Committee (DAC)

Please also see UU@UN event information on page 11 of this Quest edition.

Membership Coordinator
Abigail Highland

Membership Kick-Off | Sunday, April 17, 2022 | 12:00–2:00 PM
Spring Membership Renewal follows Easter Worship Service and the Annual Egg Hunt

Join onsite for a fun-filled, kick-off family-friendly event to renew your membership for the 2022–2023 Congregational Year.

Outdoor lunch for all and a flower give-away to those who turn in their Membership Renewal Card!

See the 1976 Ford F-100 Truck named Baby Blue onsite (#spotbabyblue). You won’t want to miss this celebration!

Inquirers NEWCOMERS PROGRAM
An ongoing series of learning conversations about the congregation and Unitarian Universalism. Designed for visitors and newcomers, this is the first step on the path to belonging and membership.

Each session covers a different area of congregational life and connects you with leaders and members at Shelter Rock. Sessions are drop-in format, although you are encouraged to come to as many as possible! Please contact Abigail Highland for information.

April 10 12:30-1:30 Worship and Music
April 24 12:30-1:30 Pastoral Care & Rites of Passage
May 1 12:00-1:00 Social Justice & Action
May 15 12:30-1:30 Membership at Shelter Rock
With the announcement of Rev. Jennifer Brower’s retirement, the UUCSR Board of Trustees (BOT) appointed a Ministerial Search Committee to seek a candidate for a ministerial position. The Board solicited names of members of the congregation who would be interested in serving on the search committee. The Committee members are: Marilyn Fischell, Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore, Shanti Flot, Toni Logue, Monica Schlichting, Hugh Stephens, Suzanne Viverito, and Jane Weiler, (Chair).

The Search Committee is seeking a Contract Minister who would serve for two years and would then be eligible for a contract renewal.

The title of this new position will be Minister of Congregational Life, encompassing the duties of pastoral care, worship, and attention to care for all members of this congregation as they, and the minister, grow in community. The Board, at a recent retreat, decided that the new minister would report to the Lead Minister, in an effort to improve clarity and accountability of ministerial tasks.

In April, the Search Committee will send the Congregation a brief survey. The information gathered from our congregation will be invaluable in guiding the Search Committee. Our members have already named spirituality, community, and being of service, as the most important aspects of congregational life at Shelter Rock. It will be very helpful to ask how we envision ministry and worship within these three focus areas.

The Search Committee has developed a position description (available at [www.uucsr.org/2022minister](http://www.uucsr.org/2022minister)) and worked with the UUA to post it on the UUA Ministry Job Board. After evaluating candidates, the Search Committee will recommend a candidate to the Board of Trustees in late spring for their approval. If approved by members of the BOT, the candidate would begin at UUCSR in late summer.
New Logo Design

On behalf of the UUCSR Publicity and Promotions Committee, I am excited to announce the roll-out of new, contemporary congregational brand Guidelines recently endorsed by the Board of Trustees! The most important development is the new logo above this message that replaces the one in use since 2006. During the past year, members of the committee identified best practices in marketing trends and how they could be implemented at Shelter Rock. With the assistance of an outside brand content specialist, a set of organizational colors, fonts, and a new logo were developed for an ever-widening range of media platforms available today.

Over the next few months, you will see a transition to the new logo, and a feeling of brightness in our colors. You may notice a more vibrant and more graphic approach in fonts, graphics, and advertising. Members of Shelter Rock’s Publicity and Promotions Committee are deliberately positioning Shelter Rock as vital and fresh, especially as we return to being physically together again in worship and in community.

The new Guidelines will help characterize the Shelter Rock congregation by using recognizable and repeated visual cues that reinforce the idea of a modern, forward-thinking organization. The Guidelines are tools that will make UUCSR outreach easier and more effective for everyone. Details are available HERE.

You are welcome to use the various logo configurations, colors, and fonts as you engage in congregational life. If you have questions or need assistance of any kind, please contact Communications Manager Jen Sappell (jsappell@uucsr.org or 516.472.2980).

Like UUCSR, the new logo is unique. It is strong, and similar to that of the UUA. The new logo, along with new fonts and adjusted colors, will soon be featured in a new UUCSR website.

Technically, Human.Kind. is not part of the logo; it is a tagline. Despite that subtlety, members of the Publicity and Promotions Committee are committed to Human.Kind., now more than ever. The phrase captures UUCSR’s essence: “a loving religious community where you can grow spiritually and help build a more just and joyful world.” May it be so.
Celebrating Together
This April brings together many religious and spiritual celebrations. Of particular note is the convergence of the celebrations of Ramadan, Passover, and Easter—which occurs about every thirty years. As Unitarian Universalists we honor our human diversity. We uphold religious freedom. We seek to understand the wisdom found in many faiths. We can remember our relationships, and our connected stories, while we fast, pray, worship, and practice deeds of charity and justice together.

There is room for all at the table.

Ramadan April 01–May 01
This month-long holiday of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community commemorates the first revelation of the Quran to Muhammad.

Each evening of Ramadan ends, after daytime fasting, with an Iftar, the often communal evening meal. For Muslims around the world this is the most important and demanding time of religious commitment.

Vaisakhi April 13
This Sikh celebration commemorates the creation of the Khalsa Panth, an order of Sikhs devoted to serving One Creation and humanity. This is an occasion to celebrate the growth and unity of the Sikh community.

Passover April 15–22
This Jewish ritual commemorates God using Moses to free the Israelites as recorded in the Book of Exodus. Death and destruction “Pass Over” the Israelites and they become free people who forge Jewish identity. Central to the holiday is the telling of the Passover story during the Seder meal.

Easter April 17
This Christian religious celebration commemorates the resurrection of Jesus. Christian belief is centered on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Easter is also a cultural holiday of Easter bunnies, colored eggs, and big family meals.

Promoting Health Equity on Long Island

A new grantee of the Veatch Program, Women’s Diversity Network (WDN), is lifting up the voices of women and gender-expansive people on Long Island to build a more inclusive and equitable New York for all. Led by its Executive Director, Shanequa Levin, WDN has championed health equity, advocated for increased mental health services, and promoted civic engagement for women and gender-expansive people.

In a relatively short period of time, Women’s Diversity Network has challenged systemic racism and improved the lives of women, particularly women of color, through its maternal health advocacy and organizing. According to CDC reports, Black women are on average three times more likely to die during the perinatal period as White women. Due to years of segregation, variations in quality healthcare, and implicit bias these racial disparities have been intractable. Women’s Diversity Network and its leaders have now secured support to create a Maternal Mortality Task Force to raise awareness and build momentum. The Task Force seeks to partner with hospital systems to leverage available data for improving care, develop birthing kits that can reduce maternal morbidity, and inform mothers about doula and expanded care services.

Informed by her own experience living in low income, segregated communities on Long Island, Levin’s team has built bridges between communities who typically do not interact. Women’s Diversity Network’s Courageous Conversation series have enabled women and gender-expansive people to discuss LGBTQIA inclusion, racial equity, critical race theory, and prison reform solutions. Those conversations have already generated positive press. Congregation members have long supported programs that promote health equity and civic engagement for women. Women’s Diversity Network is working on Long Island to change the way county and state legislators see and respond to the needs of all New Yorkers.
UU the Vote is gearing up for the mid-term elections. UU the Vote 2022 believes “that a coordinated national movement of communities working together can bring about justice, accountability, and equity.” This year’s campaign builds on the 2020 campaign.

On January 12, 2020, approximately 1,500 viewers joined an online launch of the 2020 campaign. This was the largest gathering of UUs outside of a national General Assembly. According to a report of the 2020 UU the Vote campaign, Lessons on Electoral Organizing in the 2020 Election, “UU the Vote was imagined as an ‘all hands on deck’ project to articulate UU values in the public square and activate and organize Unitarian Universalists on a mass scale.” When COVID 19 changed all plans for in person meetings and trainings, the campaign pivoted to an online model of organizing.

The campaign offered a UU the Vote training at the online General Assembly, 2020. During this GA, participants joined phone banks with their partner, Reclaim Our Vote. The goal was for UUs to make 100,000 calls during GA to voters in Texas ahead of their primary. Participants exceeded that goal by making 117K calls! UU the Vote then offered “It Starts With Faith: Organizing School” to build a community of UUs grounded in our faith and ready to do the hard work of educating and motivating value based, voter participation across the USA. Seven members of UUCSR participated in this training.

Because of UU the Vote, members of the UUCSR Social Justice Committee partnered with Reclaim Our Vote and began writing postcards to voters of color in the rural South. These postcards provide vital information about the dates and polling locations for primaries and general elections. They also serve as a source of inspiration for these voters. The system works! Reclaim Our Vote is able to track the success of these efforts by comparing the voters who received cards with the numbers of those who voted in an election and see an increase in participation.

Now it’s time for Reclaim Our Vote 2022. The Social Justice Committee has already started by writing postcards to primary voters in Georgia, North Carolina, and Alabama. The messages are based on polling by the NAACP in these states to discover issues most important to voters. As of this writing volunteers have written 1,700 cards. There will be many more opportunities to write cards. If you would like to join this effort, watch the Quest for the next opportunity to register.

There will be an online launch party for UU the Vote 2022 on Sunday, April 10, at 4:00 PM. Register HERE to join UUs from across the country to learn how to make a difference this year.

**Social Justice Announcements**

**Aid to the People of Ukraine**  Want to help, but unsure how? The International Women’s Convocation (IWC) is accepting donations that will be administered by the Hungarian Unitarian Church. Donations will give immediate help to families fleeing war in Ukraine, providing transportation, shelter, food, supplies, and counseling. [Click here to give.]

**Assisting Refugee Families**  Volunteers are desperately needed to drive volunteers to appointments and to check out possible rental apartments. COVID precautions are observed. When contacted by the Upholding Humanity Volunteer Coordinator Maddy Donath you can always say “no.” You could also ask to go with another volunteer. If you’d like to try this out, click here and complete the form. Helping a refugee is a very rewarding experience. Don’t miss it.

**Thursday, April 7, 2022**

**10:30 am | Social Hall**

**Organize Donations for Refugee Families**  Volunteers needed to organize donations we have received so they can be distributed. Register [HERE.]

**Thursdays, April 7 and 14, 2022 | 5:30–6:30 PM**

**Anti-Racism Book Club**  Racial Justice Subcommittee and the Eighth Principle Task Force invite you to join an online book club devoted to reading and discussing books about combatting racism. The group meets on Thursdays to read and discuss the book, *White Too Long*, by Robert P. Jones. April 7 the group will discuss chapter 5 and on April 14 chapter 4. The discussion will be led by Patti Paris, librarian and experienced facilitator of book conversations. Registration required [HERE.](#)  After you register, watch for an email with your link to the discussion group. The link will be the same for each session. Sponsored by the Racial Justice Sub-Committee and the Eighth Principle Implementation Task Force

**Sunday, April 10, 2022**

**Online Program | 4:00 PM**

**UU the Vote 2022**  Join UUs from across the country to launch this national effort to promote voting. Register [HERE.](#)

**Fridays, April 8 and 15, 2022 | 6:30–8:00 PM**

**Friday Nights with the LGBTQ+ Group**  The UUCSR LGBTQ+ Sub-Committee sponsors a weekly get-together. This is an informal gathering at which participants check in from 6:30–7:00 PM and then join facilitated conversation on a topic from 7:00–8:00 PM. On April 8, the topic will be “Show and Tell: Something that’s meaningful to you that you haven’t talked about before.” On April 15, participants will engage in “Planning for Pride and Other Activities.” Members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies are welcome to participate. Join by going to the uucsr.org/calendar for the date you wish to attend.

**Wednesday, April 13, 2022 | Online | 7:00–8:30 PM**

**Social Justice Committee Meeting**  Join [HERE](#) Or call +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 928 2583 9567
CALL FOR MUSICIANS

After a two-year hiatus,
LIVE PERFORMANCES ARE BACK!

THE ORCHESTRA at SHELTER ROCK

STEPHEN MICHAEL SMITH, Music Director/Conductor

ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT

REHEARSALS
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: 7–9 pm
July 6, 13, 20, 27

CONCERT
SUNDAY, July 31 | Noon call | 1 pm Concert
(indoors w/ac)

VENUE (Rehearsals and Concert)
Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock
48 Shelter Rock Road
Manhasset, NY 11030

Fully air-conditioned, HEPA-filtered air circulation,
free parking, stands/lights provided

REPERTOIRE (tentative)

REGISTER NOW TO RESERVE A SEAT!
Contact Orchestra Librarian: Sylvia Cordero-Skidmore at
uumusic@uucsr.org; 516.659.5598

Music will be sent prior to the first rehearsal.

A Pictorial Chronicle of the Great Pandemic

The first art exhibit to appear in the Art Gallery after the long pandemic hiatus is titled, fittingly enough, “A Pictorial Chronicle of the Great Pandemic.”

The sixteen-work collection of cover illustrations for The New Yorker magazine feature images of full-color paintings that carry on the great 20th-century tradition of memorable magazine covers that capture the human side of current events and everyday situations.

In one, we see a solitary worker sweeping the floor of a suddenly empty Grand Central Terminal. We see neighborhood apartment dwellers coming to their windows to make a noisy thank-you to essential hospital workers. We discover the secrets of Zoom sessions where there is a great contrast between what the camera is allowed to pick up and other unseen aspects of attire and room conditions.

Surprisingly, five of the works are not real New Yorker covers, but works made by 3rd-year illustration students at the School for Visual Arts in Manhattan in response to an assignment to “picture a pandemic moment in the style of a New Yorker cover.” The release of their work on Twitter created an online sensation, as reported by The Washington Post.

The exhibit is scheduled to remain up in the UUCSR Art Gallery throughout April, 2022.

John Haney for the Art Committee

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**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL EVENT**

**Stories from the Rock**

**PRESENTS**

**Beautiful Mistakes**

Six storytellers share their hilarious, horrible, heartbreaking, heart-warming true stories.

**Saturday, April 30, 7:30 PM**

Have you ever made a beautiful mistake? And lived to tell the tale? Our storytellers have!

Did you ever plan a break-up vacation with your soon-to-be-ex-boyfriend? Or give your teacher a wildly inappropriate gift, hoping it would lead to happily-ever-after? No? Well, our six professional storytellers have some beautiful mistakes to share.

Now You’re Talking’s award-winning headliner Tracey Segarra partners with Stories from the Rock to bring you six storytellers to share hilarious, horrible, heartbreaking, and heart-warming stories on Saturday, April 30, 2022, at 7:30 PM.

Admission is free. Please register at uucsr.org/stories HERE.

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**Yoga for Joy and Balance with Beth | Wednesdays, 4:00–5:15 PM**

This class incorporates techniques of Kundalini Yoga, breath work, meditation, and energy modalities live on Zoom HERE. No experience necessary. Cost: $28 for 4 classes (use any time). First time attendees: no charge. Checks should be addressed to: North Shore Soup Kitchen. All proceeds will be donated to North Shore Soup Kitchen (NorthShoreSoupKitchen.org). Mail checks to: Beth Fedirko, 77 Glen Ave., Sea Cliff, NY 11579. Questions? Beth Fedirko, 516.297.1042 or bfedirko@optonline.net

**Medical Qi Gong for Senior Health | Mondays, 9:00–10:00 AM**

By popular demand, Qigong instructor Ashley Baldwin continues offering classes that strengthen your balance and overall body confidence! You will learn simple, yet powerful motion and breathing exercises to improve physical balance and falling safety skills, optimize lung capacity, bolster immunity, and promote energy flow to the internal organs. Ashley Zooms in every Monday morning directly from Thailand.

$50/5 classes, $12/drop-in class (See registration form)
Register HERE or email tgh.Ashley@gmail.com

**Great Books Discussions | Fridays | 12:00–1:30 PM**

Come together for conversation that is also a fun learning experience promoting civil discourse, critical thinking, and meaningful interpersonal connection. All are welcome.

Beginning April 8, 2022
Reading: The Greatest Short Stories of Anton Chekhov: A Collection Of Fifty Stories, translated by Constance Garnett

Available on Amazon HERE,
Gather live on Zoom HERE.

**Dramatic Readings**

NOTE NEW DATE: Saturday, April 23, 6:00-9:00 PM

Live on Zoom HERE,
Meeting ID: 953 4647 4715
Passcode: 396210

**Lost in Yonkers, by Neil Simon**

“By America’s great comic playwright, this memory play is set in Yonkers in 1942. Bella is thirty-five years old, mentally challenged, and living at home with her mother, stern Grandma Kurnitz. As the play opens, ne’er-do-well son Eddie deposits his two young sons on the old lady’s doorstep. He is financially strapped and taking to the road as a salesman. The boys are left to contend with Grandma, with Bella and her secret romance, and with Louie, her brother, a small-time hoodlum in a strange new world called Yonkers.”—Concord Theatricals

Please RSVP to Jessica Pond at jpond@uucsr.org by April 11 if you would like a PDF of the play emailed to you, or a physical copy mailed to you.

**Soulful Songs & Stories**

Charlie King’s song, “Our Life Is More Than Our Work,” and stories from Tressie McMillan Cottom and Charlie Tyson on burnout are the meat and potatoes of this month’s offering, “The Soul-Destroying Fictions of Work.” Additional songs include “Bread and Roses,” “I Want to Break Free,” and “Since I’ve Laid My Burdens Down.” Instrumentals (Tapani Rinne, Alexandre Tansman, Reynaldo Hahn, Joe Alterman, and more) serve as musical interludes between quotes, stories, and stats by Weike Wang, Jonathan Malesic, Shana Blackwell, Paula D’Arcy, and others. You are invited to look with us at barenaked work, without rose-colored glasses and mellifluous words, as we separate the sanctity of work from idolatry of work, accept our worth apart from work, and if, when, and how we should tolerate, call out, or separate from soul-crushing individuals and institutions.

Look for it in your inbox on April 15. If you haven’t signed up, get on the mailing list by calling Jessica Pond at 516.472.2914 or send her an email: JPond@uucsr.org.

Enjoy past PDFs at www.j.mp/uucsrsss.
Alice Giordano and Steve Marston
This article demonstrates the congregation’s stewardship of the earth and commitment to the Seventh Principle.

As a large natural area, UUCSR’s property is unique in Nassau county. Although the congregation moved to the Shelter Rock property decades ago, there has not yet been a plan for our stewardship of the property. A little over two years ago, the Buildings and Grounds Committee, in partnership with the Green Sanctuary Committee, sought to develop an understanding of how the Congregation could best utilize and preserve its important 100 acres of legacy gold coast gardens and maturing woodland. Dana Gumb has been a leader in this effort.

As a group, we focused on the Seventh Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. We focused on the needs of Shelter Rock stakeholders—the congregation, involved committees, the broader community, and all the flora and fauna that depends upon the property. Shelter Rocks’ woodland sustains over 60 species of birds, coyotes, raccoons, deer, and opossum, to name just a few.

Master Plan. The 247-page plan is organized into eleven “folios,” each describing a variety of sustainable land projects that will greatly enhance the property. The treatise remains a work in progress, a guide, with each project idea open to further discussion.

One project—the rehabilitation of our patio area, where the Homecoming Picnic is held—has already been approved and budgeted, and is slated for contractor bidding this month. A second project to remove invasive plants and vines that are choking the woodland perimeter to the Great Lawn will start this month. Another near-term recommendation is to create a new hire position for a sustainable landscape ecologist. The successful candidate will work to make our land management vision a reality. Near future projects include the review of the wastewater disposal system. We look forward to briefing the congregation, involved committees, and the Board of Trustees on the plan. UUCSR’s property is a magnificent resource that can be enhanced for the benefit of the congregation, the wider community, and other life forms with which we share this planet.

The Land Management report is attached for your reading pleasure.

Denominational Affairs Committee (DAC)
Richard Bock, Chair

DISPLACEMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Update from the UU@UN: A Gathering to Discuss “Displacement and Climate Justice”
April 24, 2022 | 12:30 PM | Art Gallery

Climate change is the defining crisis of our time and disaster displacement one if it’s most devastating consequences. Join in a discussion of how ordinary people may resist the increasing effects of climate crisis.

Shelter Rock will host an opportunity for UUs who are interested in mitigating climate change and expanding the concept of climate justice to meet with local Inter-generational Spring Seminar participants. The gathering will focus on the discussion of “Displacement and Climate Justice.”

Janet Bendowitz
Liaison to UU@UN
for the Denominational Affairs Committee

The woods allow for regeneration of the aquifers that supply drinking water locally. The trees sequester tons of carbon dioxide while releasing oxygen. The trees also act to modulate local climate. The garden and woodland property is a spiritual draw providing a peaceful park-like environment. Both committees look to make the grounds more inviting and resilient.

Together, we engaged the environmental/engineering firm of Nelson Pope and Voorhis to assist us in the endeavor. This month, we are rolling out the fruits of our labor in the Landscape
Lifespan Religious Education (RE)
Carson Jones, Lifespan Religious Education Coordinator

Onsite Religious Education Classes Are Back!

Please register your family for 2021–2022 Religious Education programming by going to www.uucsr.org/RE and receive communications about all the exciting events we have planned.

Young People’s Choir Rehearsals
Sundays, 10:00 AM | Chapel

Anyone interested in performing with the Young People’s Choir (YPC) can join RE Music Specialist George Weisman most every Sunday. The YPC is just getting started on learning some new material so if you’ve been thinking about joining, now is a great time! Please feel free to reach out to George at georgeweisman@gmail.com with any questions.

Embodying Wholeness—Children’s Worship for All Ages

Sundays at 11:05 AM, RE Classes are welcomed into Children’s Worship in the Chapel, and any parents/caregivers and other grown-ups who wish to join us are more than welcome to do so!

Sunday, April 10: Grades 4–6
Sunday, May 1: Butterflies, Kindergarten, and Grades 1–3

Please remember, we need to be masked while singing, so please bring your masks to wear over your mouth and nose so we can hear all your beautiful voices!

Carson Jones and George Weisman lead this service where we will explore this year’s RE theme, Embodying Wholeness. Through story, movement, and music, we will celebrate together how it feels to live into our whole selves.

In this final story of the year we’ll meet Temple, The Girl Who Thought in Pictures, by Julia Finley Mosca and Daniel Rieley. Temple’s brain works differently than the other kids around her. She learns differently, she communicates differently, and her thoughts don’t come out in words or speech, but pictures. She struggles in school, and when she moves from the city to spend time with relatives on their farm, she forms empathetic bonds with all the animals. This inspires Temple to invent a way for the animals to live happier lives, which brings her greater fulfillment and purpose as well!

Then we’ll draw our own pictures of what change we wish to make in the world that would make us and everyone happy, and George will perform an inspiring anthem by Natalie Merchant. Looking forward to experiencing the wholeness of community with you all.

Easter and Passover Traditions Bedtime Stories!
Wednesday, April 6, 2022 | 7:00 PM

Live on Zoom HERE. All are welcome to join Lifespan Religious Education Coordinator Carson Jones for this special interactive storytime as he reads three family-friendly stories celebrating Easter and Passover!

A Very Happy Easter, written by Tim Thornborough, illustrated by Jennifer Davison
The Last Place You Look, written by j wallace skelton, illustrated by Justin Alves
Rechenka’s Eggs, written and illustrated by Patricia Polacco

The glorious, full-scale Egg Hunt returns this Easter Sunday, April 17. Come to the Family Worship Service at 11:00 AM, and then we’ll hunt for eggs in meadow immediately following... and bring friends!
Women's Group
Maria Cerialo, Chair, Women's Issues

The Feminine Face of Resistance

I’m sure we can agree with the first lady of Ukraine, Olena Zelenska, when she expressed her gratitude and admiration for the women of her country who are playing a crucial role in the war-torn country. As reported by People magazine, she said that resistance has a “feminine face.”

As there are 2 million more women than men in Ukraine, they are fighting in the army, volunteering to supply, deliver and feed. As all men aged 16–60 were not allowed to leave and had to serve in the war effort, many women left the country, some with little ones. Then there were the others who stayed to fight. They took classes in battlefield medicine and how to use guns. Even though it wasn’t until recently that women in Ukraine were given full equality in the armed forces, women now make up 15 percent of Ukraine’s army. Kate Matchyshyn told the British newspaper the Sun, “Russians are killing Ukrainian children, so Ukrainian women will do what they have to do to protect them.” All these women are the feminine faces of resistance.

The New York Times reported on so very many fractured families. Some women have children or parents who believe Russian propaganda, saying their experiences aren’t real, just a result of brainwashing. There are those living in subway stations, too weak to go back and forth to their apartments due to medical difficulties. There are those who sent their children away while they stayed to fight. After moving into a railway car with her two-year-old son, Vita’s phone was stolen, leaving her without a way to find out if her two daughters are safe. Although they are heartbroken, Ukrainian women are determined to remain strong and defend their country for as long as it takes.

The feminine face of resistance shines on the first lady of Ukraine. She stayed in her country when she could have left. She reached out to the first ladies of Europe asking for their support in rescuing children with cancer so they can be treated by doctors. Asked whether she had a message for the Russians, she addressed Russian mothers, telling them that their sons are killing civilians. Their sons, Russian soldiers, are also dying. She told them that any compensation promised by Putin will never replace their children. As we know, nothing can ever replace or compensate for the loss of children or loved ones.

I know you’ll join me in a salute to the women of Ukraine.
The promise of change became palpable at Hadley House as we turned the clocks forward. With Covid restrictions relaxing, we felt the spirit of our community emerge from a deep winter sleep. Spring arrived, and it seemed all the senses were awakened. After two years of uncertainty, we felt the rhythm of the House returning.

St. Patrick’s Day burst upon us with joy and celebration! This event was the first open, non-Covid restricted celebration at Hadley House in the last two and a half years! Gifted with a bagpiper by our hosts Katherine and David Miller, we sang and we laughed; we smelled the aroma of potluck dishes and tasted everything! Our ancestors were awakened with the drones of the piper, and you could feel them celebrating with us.

We express gratitude for creative and informative displays in the lobby from Nancy Keegan which commemorate each holiday and season on the bulletin board. The newest display is a tribute to the arrival of spring with poetry, cartoons, and amazing photos, as we welcome the returning birds in their nest nearby and the beautiful purple crocuses blooming at the Hadley House entrance.

It is here! The joy of spring with its promise of new life. Our traditions echo this promise: Passover’s mighty struggle for freedom. In another tradition, collecting and destroying any leftover crumbs in the faith that God will provide a new wheat crop. Easter has a similar underlying theme, that of new life after the death and resurrection of Jesus, the fecundity of rabbits, and the symbol of the egg. Jerry reminds us that March 17, 2022 was the celebration of Purim, when Queen Esther of Persia saved the Jewish people. Let’s not forget the ancient Greeks had their story of rebirth and renewal to herald spring in the myth of Demeter and Persephone.

We are feeling the same stirrings. March 18 was the first day in 2022 when the outside temperature reached 70+ degrees and skies were clear. Bursting into the sunshine, neighbor greeted neighbor. Hadley House residents celebrated their new freedom after a very cold winter. We were as happy as could be! But then came the sad news that the baseball season would be cancelled, just when the Mets had the two best professional starting pitchers. But April Fool! The owners and players reached an agreement, and a full season will be played beginning a week later than was scheduled. With Passover and Easter and baseball season approaching, there is much to look forward to at Hadley House.

Nancy Jacobson, Jerry Jalazo, Barbara Singer, Teddy Sklover, Lilyan Strassman, and Lois Wolfson
Wednesday, April 6, 2022
4:00 PM, Yoga for Joy and Balance with Beth
6:30 PM, Dining Solo Together!
7:00 PM, Personnel Committee Meeting
7:00 PM, Easter and Passover Traditions Bedtime Stories!
7:00 PM, Publicity and Promotions Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 7, 2022
9:00 AM, Building Hours, Building Hours
10:00 AM, Living Solo
1:00 PM, Bridge Game Play, Veatch Ballroom
1:00 PM, Strategic Plan Task Force Meeting, Office Conference Room, Online
5:30 PM, Anti-Racism Book Club Online Program
7:00 PM, Member Resource Committee Meeting
7:30 PM, Cancelled: Choir Rehearsal, Social Hall

Friday, April 8, 2022
12:00 PM, Great Books Discussion
6:00 PM, LGBTQ+ Hybrid Gathering, Office Conference Room, Online
6:00 PM, LGBTQ+ Hybrid Gathering
7:30 PM, Soulful Sundown, Social Hall, Online

Saturday, April 9, 2022
10:00 AM, Caring Committee Meeting

Sunday, April 10, 2022
9:00 AM, Small Group Ministry - 2nd Sunday of the Month
9:00 AM, Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, Choir Rehearsal Room
9:00 AM, Building Hours, Building Hours
9:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Social Hall, Social Hall
9:30 AM, Futures Conversation, Bride’s Room, Office Conference Room, Online
10:00 AM, Choir Rehearsal, Worship Room
10:00 AM, Young People’s Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
10:30 AM, Sunday Morning Experience
11:00 AM, RE Wing
11:00 AM, Sunday Worship: Awakening and Unfinished, Worship Room, Art Gallery

Monday, April 11, 2022
9:00 AM, Building Hours, Building Hours
9:00 AM, Medical Qigong for Senior Health
5:30 PM, Veatch Engagement Case Studies Team Meeting
7:00 PM, Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 12, 2022
9:00 AM, Building Hours, Building Hours
3:00 PM, Art Committee Meeting, Office Conference Room, Online
7:00 PM, Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, April 13, 2022
9:00 AM, Building Hours, Building Hours
10:00 AM, Caring Chefs, Main Kitchen
11:00 AM, Crafting for Sanity and Community Online Get-Together
2:00 PM, Wednesday Conversations
4:00 PM, Yoga for Joy and Balance with Beth
4:00 PM, Women’s Group Online Board Meeting
6:00 PM, Ukulele Group Practice
6:30 PM, Dining Solo Together!
7:00 PM, Social Justice Virtual Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2022
9:00 AM, Building Hours, Building Hours
10:00 AM, Living Solo
1:00 PM, Bridge Game Play, Veatch Ballroom
1:00 PM, Strategic Plan Task Force Meeting, Office Conference Room, Online
5:30 PM, Anti-Racism Book Club Online Program
7:00 PM, UU Kids Connect Monthly Gathering Space

7:00 PM, Board of Trustees Meeting
7:30 PM, Choir Rehearsal, Social Hall

Friday, April 15, 2022
12:00 PM, Great Books Discussion
3:30 PM, WG Online Book Series Discussion
6:30 PM, LGBTQ+ Online Gathering

Saturday, April 16, 2022
5:00 PM, UUCSR & UUFH Online Universalist Seder

Sunday, April 17, 2022
9:00 AM, Building Hours, Building Hours
9:00 AM, Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, Choir Rehearsal Room
9:30 AM, Childcare, RE Room 1 and 2
9:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Social Hall
10:00 AM, Young People’s Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
10:00 AM, Choir Rehearsal, Worship Room
10:30 AM, Sunday Morning Experience
11:00 AM, Sunday Service: Blooming and Belonging Easter Family Service, Meadow Tent, Online
11:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Social Hall, Social Hall, Online
12:00 PM, Blooming and Belonging: Spring Membership Renewal Kick-Off Event, Meadow
UU Community Garden
Calling All Green Thumbs (Or Wannabes)!

Come join the UU Community Garden for the 2022 growing season! The organic garden is located directly behind the Veatch parking lot. Anyone interested is encouraged to consider claiming a spot to try gardening for a season. You just may get hooked!

Those who wish to participate MUST be members and be able to commit to 2–4 hours per week during peak season to weed and harvest.

Interested members, please reply no later than Saturday, April 16, 2022.

For more information, please contact May Choi-Steele at may_steele@yahoo.com or evenings at 917.215.3336.

ONLINE SEDER CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, APRIL 16 | 5:00 PM
co-hosted by
Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington

Unitarian Universalist Seder with all the traditional rituals and so much more! Featuring live music!

The service will be online, then enjoy Passover Seder Dinner at home with your family and loved ones.

Join Zoom Meeting HERE.
Or call +1 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 865 7736 6002
Passcode: 108173