The Quest

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION AT SHELTER ROCK

May 4, 2022

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 Calendar Here

Monthly Theme:
Nurturing Beauty

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022, 11:00 AM
Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore

Mama's Day Mother's Day was begun as "Mother's Day for Peace" in 1870 by Unitarian Julia Ward. She made an "appeal to womanhood throughout the world to unite for peace." With "Mama's Day" we are called to honor all those who "mother" especially those who mentor in the midst of pain, war and struggle. However imperfect the effort to nuture life is a spirit-filled journey. *

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022, 7:30 PM
Rev. Jennifer Brower

Soulful Sundown Please note the new time for Soulful Sundown onsite and online! Rev. Brower weaves spoken word with music from The Cosmic Orchestra. Featured special guest musician is local legend Amy Correia. Coffee, tea, cookies. *

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022, 11:00 AM
Rev. Nic Filzen, Guest Minister

Sound Beauty How does making music—nurturing sound beauty—help to connect us? Ground us? We'll (re)connect as a community with a new composition by UU Church of Augusta Music Director, David Neches. *

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022, 11:00 AM
Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore

Coming of Age Annually our 8th grade Coming of Age has a year to learn about and reflect about their own place in Unitarian Universalism. They write their Statements of Beliefs—Credo Statements—and present them to the congregation in this worship service. We will hear from our curious,talented, and challenging, young people. Due to the pandemic, those who were the 8th-graders during the pandemic closure have been invited to participate in this service. *

* ***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.*

TOUCHSTONES
Rev. Jennifer Brower

Winding Down

Each edition of our *Quest* newsletter is chock full. There are sermon blurbs and newsy articles. There is information about membership and faith exploration classes for children, youth, and adults. There are invitations to join in music-making, and announcements of concerts and presentations to attend. You'll find compelling calls to action and ways to join in making the world a more just and joyful place for all living beings. Our many monthly committee meetings are listed, as are an increasing number of activities and programs now that the coronavirus pandemic has become endemic. The *Quest* is a vitally important means of communicating what's happening at UUCSR, which helps you and every other member—engaged in unique areas of congregational life—know what's happening beyond your sphere of focus. The *Quest* newsletter helps us stay connected to congregational life. And, if we make space in it, the *Quest* can also help us to find grounding between Worship Services and connection through a shared spiritual practice.

In April, in worship, Small Group Ministry, and Religious Education, our congregtation explored the theme of awakening. Today, whatever day it is when you read the *Quest*, I invite you to join with your fellow members in reflecting upon the words of the late Rev. Elizabeth Tarbox (1944-1999). I have admired her thinking and writing over all the years of my ministry. In the tumult of these days, I find grounding in her words. Although this piece, "All Is Dukkha," which was originally published in the 1993 Meditation Manual *Life Tides*, may reflect autumnal imagery, it feels fitting as the congregational year is winding down.

> "*Dukkha*," they say. The Buddhists say, "All is *dukkha*." It is hard to translate, they tell us. It means literally "suffering" but the feeling of dukkha is closer to impermanence. The fact of impermanence is central to the Buddhist path to nirvana, enlightenment.
>
> *Dukkha*. All is impermanence. Nothing lasts. I thought of that yesterday, watching leaves come down in a shower, and the smell of the rotting ones going back into the earth. Leaf to

Continued on page 2

Thank You, Rev. Jennifer Brower

Paul Carbone, Angela Cesa, Melinda Nasti

a farewell to

The Rev. Jennifer Brower

UPON HER RETIREMENT AFTER MINISTERING TO OUR CONGREGATION FOR OVER 20 YEARS

Sunday, June 5

11:00 AM

Worship Service: Celebration and Appreciation

We will gather in community to celebrate the ministry of the Rev. Jennifer Brower upon her retirement from UUCSR after 20 years as Minister for Pastoral Care. Come be part of this service filled with memories, well wishes.

12:00 PM

Light Lunch & Farewell Reception

Courtesy of the Board of Trustees

1:00 PM

Celebratory Toast

1:30 PM

UUCSR Annual Meeting

Onsite and Online

REGISTER TODAY

1. RSVP for reception here: www.uucsr.org/farewell

2. Sign up to attend Annual Meeting ONLINE here.

Touchstones

continued from page 1

humus and back to earth to nourish the roots of the mother tree. The crows crying as the leaves fall and their nests are exposed: dukkha...all is impermanence.

And life goes on, and people who were with us last year at this time have died, all souls pass on, all is dukkha, nothing lasts.

The path to enlightenment is understanding, accepting impermanence to the point where we no longer struggle against it. That is the way of the Buddha. But here in the West we search for that which is permanent, even as we live with the death of all things, all people. We search for a sure footing on the path strewn with fallen leaves; we notice the buds of next year's growth tight-curled and waiting; we hold on to the things we can count on—our church, our community, our memories of those who died before us, our love and hope, and the search for certainty in a world that is dukkha.

God of creation, God of today—let us find each other in a changing world; let us experience love as something which exists, a possibility which is. Let us know that we are alive and being renewed miraculously each second; that the impermanence gives to life its freshness and surprise; that our memories of yesterday and our expectations of tomorrow make now a cherished, precious, eternal moment.

So may it be…

Rev. Jennifer

Milestones

We extend caring support to...Carol Rothbell, who is awaiting news about her daughter Robin Touhill's health. Robin is undergoing surgery following a heart attack. Cards of care may be sent to Carol and Robin at Carol's address:

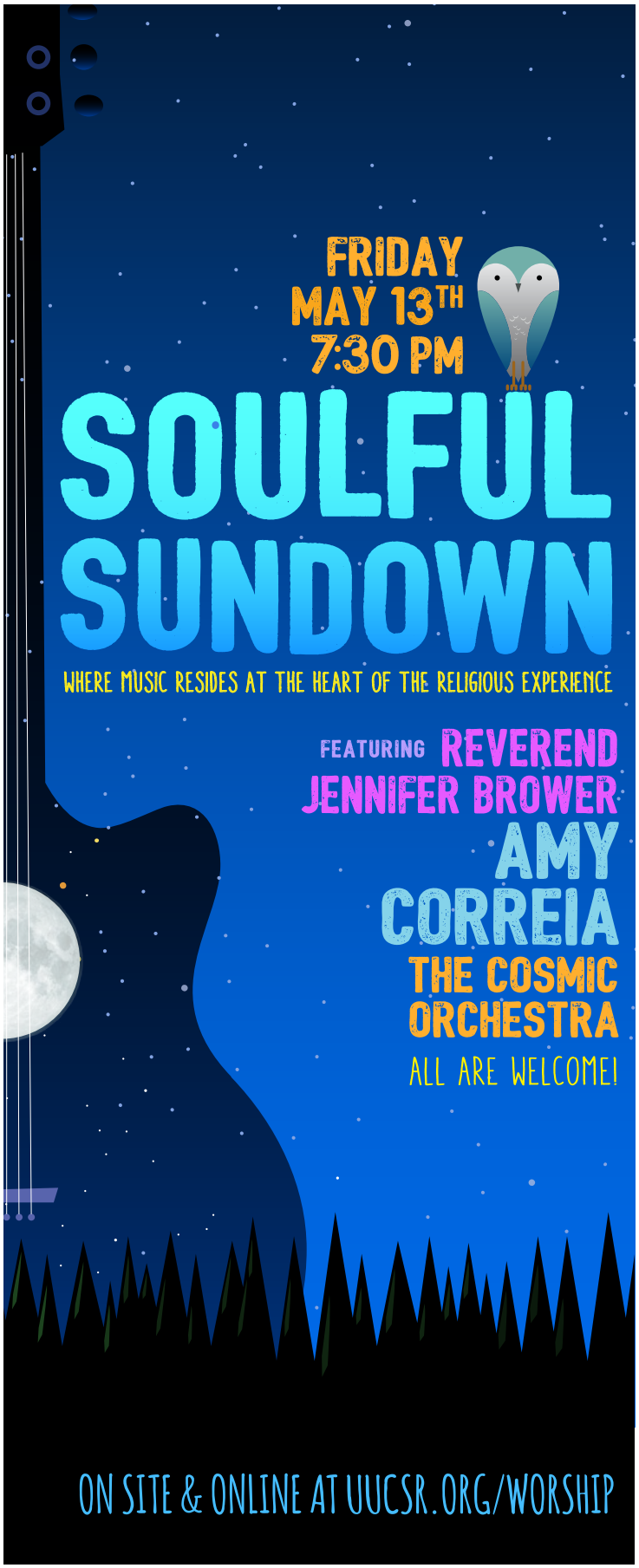
21140 18th Ave, Apt 4F
Bayside, NY 11360-1509

Thank You

I am overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from members of my congregation as I recover from hip replacement surgery! There have been calls, cards, flowers, and meals. Magnificent flowers and a beautiful quilted bag made by Renée Silver brightened my spirits. All the expressions of love and caring have made me truly thankful for being a member of this beloved community for the past 22 years.

Diane Mansell

Soulful Sundown
Rev. Jennifer Brower



Membership Coordinator
Abigail Highland

blooming & BELONGING AT SHELTER ROCK

Renew your Membership at Shelter Rock!

Renew your membership for the upcoming 2022-2023 year, which starts July 1, by completing a Renewal Card or going online to uucsr.org/renew. You should receive a packet in the mail if you did not pick yours up at the congregation. If you do not receive a packet, we may have an incorrect address for you. Update your address through your Membership Portal or by emailing ahighland@uucsr.org

Be sure to renew by June 30. If you have questions about renewal, contact Abigail Highland, Membership Coordinator, at ahighland@uucsr.org

Join Shelter Rock as a Member

Are you interested in joining Shelter Rock as a Member? Join the May 15 Inquirers session, 12:00-1:30 in RE classroom 4, to learn all about what it means to be a member. This session is the last in the Inquirers series. (Note: two other Inquirers sessions are required in addition to the Membership session to join. If you have not been able to attend other Inquirers sessions, email Abigail Highland, Membership Coordinator, about joining this season.) An Online Membership session will also be offered. We hope to see you there!

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.

Congregational Affairs
Jana North, President of the Congregation

Congregational Covenant
Approved by the Congregation, November 22, 2015

We, of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, choose to become part of a community with a common purpose to foster an atmosphere where the Unitarian Universalist Principles will be learned and practiced.

We covenant with one another to freely explore our religious (or theological or spiritual) beliefs and to honor our diversity as a source of communal strength. We will work together to reach our highest potential as individuals and as a community by:

...Accepting, respecting and celebrating differences among us, always remembering the "Golden Rule";
...Contributing to the Congregation intellectually, financially and with gifts of time and energy and by honoring each person's need for self-care;
...Expressing thoughts and feelings directly, speaking honestly with kindness, keeping an open mind and listening deeply, balancing our need to be heard with an obligation to listen, assuming good intentions in all interactions, and;
...Acknowledging that while we may not always agree with congregational decisions, we will honor the decision-making process and respect the outcomes.

We will attempt to resolve any conflict with another congregant by direct communication with that person first, or by seeking the assistance of a minister and/or the Committee on Ministry. Should a congregant choose not to participate in dispute resolution, then that congregant agrees to drop the matter and not involve others.

Recognizing that our Covenant is aspirational, and in affirmation of the common purpose that unites us, we will support and do our best to abide by this Covenant.

Notice of Budget Hearing on FY23 Budget
Wednesday, May 4 at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Join HERE.

UUCSR Members may access the proposed CY23 Budget at uucsr.org/myuucsr. Click HERE to access member documents. Select "Login," and follow instructions. Once you are logged in, select "Groups," then "Members of Shelter Rock," then "Resources." UUCSR staff members are available to assist with access with access.

Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) Committee
Leona Handelman, Chair

In order to further our outreach, the SRI Committee has established two liaisons: the first is the UUA Common Endowment Fund with Jill Marcus as point, and the second is VEATCH with Wendy Cheung as point. Both Jill and Wendy will seek to expand and improve the opportunities for SRI to make an impact by investing in initiatives that share UU values.

A Message from the President

When we joined the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock we affirmed our belief in the 8 Principles. We also agreed to support and abide by the Congregational Covenant shown in the adjacent column.

Our covenant is a promise to honor, accept and respect our differences. It is an agreement to honor the decision making process and respect the outcomes. Upon joining Shelter Rock we agreed to speak to each other honestly and with kindness and to balance our need to be heard with an obligation to listen deeply.

Respect, honesty, kindness and listening.

It is what we teach small children to do in the playground.

Respect is fundamental to our faith. Respect for other's opinions, beliefs and passions is the basis for many of our Principles. Simple respect in the way we talk to and interact with one another is an expected norm for our behavior. We all think and work differently from one another and we must always respect those differences without resorting to raising our voice or using words that are hurtful. We must trust in each other and respect that we all have the best of intentions.

Honesty would seem to be a given in all our interactions as well. It implies a conscious choice not to deceive, an openness of intent and a commitment to integrity when working together. We are committed to being in community with each other and should never be worried that we are not being fully informed.

Kindness is integral to the foundation of Unitarian Universalism. We think of ourselves as understanding and kind, and the word appears on all our publications. It requires us to care more about how others feel than we do

about ourselves. It is not only seen in big obvious gifts to the world around us but is most important in our small personal gestures to those we see and work with everyday.

Listening may be the most difficult lesson for Unitarian Universalists to learn but it is probably the most important. It requires patience and empathy and asks each of us to not just hear the words being said but understand what the speaker means by them. To truly listen to each other we must respect differing opinions, be honest but not critical in our assessment of them and show a kind understanding even if we don't agree.

Our Congregational Covenant is thoughtful and aspirational. It calls us to be our best selves and as Unitarian Universalists we should never accept less than that.

Denominational Affairs Committee (DAC)
Richard Bock, Chair

DAC General Asssembly (GA) 2022 Update
Shelter Rock 2022 GA Delegates continue to prepare for the event in June at the Portland, OR Convention Center. This year, Shelter Rock's in-person and virtual delegates are all experienced attendees, which makes the orientation process much easier. Also, the master schedule for the Portland event is scaled back; there are no evening activities. The major items such as the Service of the Living Tradition and the Ware Lecture will take place in the late afternoon. The Sunday morning Worship Service (open to the public as well as attendees) will be followed by a General Session and Closing Ceremony on Sunday afternoon.

Partner Church News
Elaina Litescu, DAC Liaison to Shelter Rock's Partner Church reports that she has heard back from Rev. Alpar; they are doing well and celebrated Easter last Sunday. They are concerned about the war. It is impacting them financially since fuel prices have increased considerably. Their community is helping Ukrainian refugees by raising food and money and distributing it to the people in transit towards Western Europe. Rev. Alpar sent his best wishes to the UU Shelter Rock community and his sincere thanks for the recent donation of $3,000 received from Shelter Rock.

Partner Church Auction
Barry Nobel, DAC's Partner Church Auction liaison, reports, "As war rages in eastern Europe, members of our partner church in Csikszereda, Romania are being affected by skyrocketing energy costs, while at the same time donating food and clothing to refugees entering from Ukraine. Several years ago, UUCSR members approved a Large Grant to our Partner Church which enabled them to complete construction of a new, beautiful worship space. A group of UUCSR members visited the site the following year. We are reaffirming our commitment to support them during these trying times by creating a fundraiser auction. Last held several years ago with Rev. Paul Johnson auctioneering, we raised several thousand dollars. The event attracted a large crowd and was very enjoyable.

We hope to have fun while helping others. You can participate as a donor and/or as a bidder to this year's auction. You can donate any physical item or service by contacting Barry Nobel at barry@nobel.org or 516.516.2154. Examples of items we will accept include household goods, small appliances, books, food, art, excursions, instruction, or other services. Spring cleaning is a great time to find that treasure and donate it to our event. Not sure? Call Barry! Most important: mark your calendars—save the date—Sunday afternoon, June 19, in the Social Hall.
Please see back cover of this Quest *for display ad.*

Long Island Area Council (LIAC) News
DAC Liaison Jim Smith reports that there were no LIAC meetings held during April, 2022. *See LIAC Student Activity Fund announcement on page 13 of this* Quest.

Stephen Michael Smith
Music Director

ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT

Call for Musicians

The Orchestra at Shelter Rock
Stephen Michael Smith, Conductor

Rehearsals
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
7 - 9PM
July 6, 13, 20, 27

Concert
SUNDAY, July 31
Noon call
1PM Concert

Venue
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

Tentative Repertoire
Louise Ferrenc, Margaret Bonds, Florence Price

REGISTER NOW TO RESERVE A SEAT!
Contact Orchestra Librarian: Sylvia Cordero-Skidmore at **uumusic@uucsr.org** or **(516) 659-5598**

Music will be sent prior to the first rehearsal.

Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock
Joan Minieri, Executive Director

Veatch Grantees Support Amazon Workers in a Watershed Moment

When Amazon workers on Staten Island won their historic vote to form a union on April 1, Veatch grantees fighting for worker justice for the long haul galvanized their support.

Amazon Labor Union

Erica Smiley of national Jobs with Justice celebrated it as a "watershed moment in the labor movement." Jobs with Justice continues to actively partner with Amazon workers to ensure that the workers ultimately win a fair contract, and to fight Amazon's union busting activities in Bessemer, AL.

Longtime Veatch grantee Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) continues to play an important role in the implementation of this victory. See HERE for the video that TDU produced featuring Amazon workers describing their successful organizing drive. Veatch grantee Labor Notes published this account and is organizing a series of strategy sessions, including at its national convening in Chicago in June.

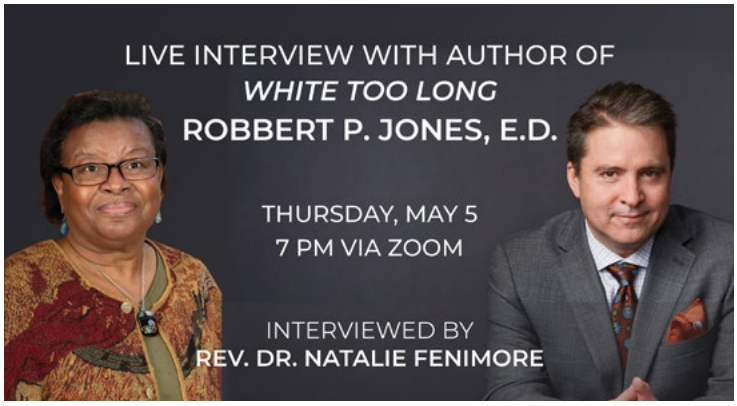
At its core, the Amazon workers, who are majority people of color, as well as single mothers and young people, recognized their worth as "essential." They fought for their rights and dignity, and won the respect of the nation. As this story unfolds, we will continue to see the impact of the long term general support that is central to the Veatch legacy, in support of multiracial, democratic participation. For example, many locally-based Veatch grantees have formed the Athena Coalition, to keep up the pressure and seize the moment. Veatch's continued partnerships in philanthropy, with faith leaders, and with organizers everywhere, is more important now, than ever.

Veatch grantees join the Amazon workers in their readiness and focus. After the voting results were announced, ALU President and former Amazon worker Chris Smalls said: "We want to thank Jeff Bezos for going to space, because while he was up there we were organizing a union."

Action Alert: *Veatch Grantee, the Coalition for Immokalee Workers will be bringing their fight for worker rights to New York, to pressure Wendy's to sign on to the Fair Food Program. Find out more HERE on how to participate in their May 12 action in New York City to support vulnerable, immigrant farm workers.*

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 and Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock, co-sponsors



Robby Jones' *White Too Long*
Thursday, May 5, 2022 | 7:00 PM
Zoom Book Talk

Join this webinar in which Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore interviews author, Robert P. Jones, PhD on what Kirkus Review calls his "Indispensable study" on the unholy relationship between American Christianity and white supremacy.

Register HERE.

Social Justice Coordinator
Claire Deroche

The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act of New York

In the November 2021 election, there were two ballot initiatives that, if they had passed, would have made voter participation easier. The proposals would have required the legislature to pass laws allowing same-day voter registration and no-excuse absentee ballot voting. Both proposals failed to pass, and because they require changes to the state's constitution, they can't come up for approval for at least four more years.

According to Jan Combopiano, the senior policy director for the Brooklyn Voters Alliance, same-day registration "would be particularly beneficial to voters who do not pay attention to local politics until late in the election cycle. It really hurts people who get activated and interested in an election late in the game, and there's no reason to punish those people," she said. "They haven't been paying attention until maybe the last month—that's like human nature." Regarding no-excuse absentee ballots, Ms. Combopiano continued, "Expanding access to absentee voting specifically would make it easier for New Yorkers to take their time and make more informed decisions."

Although New Yorkers lost out on same-day voting and no-excuse absentee ballots in November, there is still an opportunity to widen voter participation in the state: passing The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act of New York.

According to the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU), New York State needs this legislation to correct laws and practices that discriminate against voters of color. These include "at large election systems, redistricting plans that dilute minority voting strength, polling location plans with too few and/or too inconvenient sites, and failures to provide adequate language assistance." Because changes to the Federal Voting Rights Act have weakened the ability of communities of color to contest discrimination, states must step in and provide protections that have been lost.

NYCLU has stated: "If enacted, the NYVRA, S.1046A (Myrie), A.6678A (Walker), would be the strongest and most comprehensive state voting rights act to date, and it would continue this state's march towards becoming a leader in promoting equal access to political participation."

For this bill to pass, legislators need to hear from their constituents. To contact yours, go to Open States, find your state assembly member and your state senator, and click on their email addresses to send the message: We need the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act of New York. Please vote for Bill (insert S.1046A for senators and A.6678A for assembly members). Let's do our part to protect the right to vote for all New Yorkers!

Social Justice Announcements
Claire Deroche, Social Justice Coordinator

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

Unitarian Universalist
Congregation at Shelter Rock
Human. Kind.

Fridays, May 6 and May 13, 2022
Friday Nights with the LGBTQ+ Group
The UUCSR LGBTQ+ Sub-Committee sponsors a weekly get-together on Friday nights from 6:30–8:00 PM. This is an informal gathering where participants check-in from 6:30–7:00 PM and then engage in facilitated conversation on a topic from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Currently, we are planning the Sunday Worship for June 19. The theme will combine Juneteenth and Pride. Members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies are welcome to participate. To join anyLGBTQ+ meeting, go to https://uucsr.org/calendar/ for the Friday you wish to attend.

Monday, May 9, 2022 | 6:30–8:30 PM
UU the Vote Online National Letter Writing Party
Join #UUtheVote for the first National Day of Action on May 9! Help us reach our goal of sending 1,000,000 letters to potential voters in the 2022 midterms. We'll be joined by special guests from our partners at Vote Forward and performance artists, Emma's Revolution. Don't miss the party! Join us! #UUtheVote #VoteLove #DefeatHate Register HERE.

Wednesday, May 18, 2022
Social Justice Committee Online Meeting
6:30 PM check-in and conversation, 7:00 PM meeting. Please note the date change to the third Wednesday of the month. Zoom link is the same: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92825839567 Meeting ID: 928 2583 9567 Or call: 646.558.8656.

ALL-CONGREGATION RETREAT AT SILVER BAY

LAST CHANCE!

The 23rd Memorial Day Weekend tradition at gorgeous Silver Bay on Lake George in the Adirondacks is Friday, May 27–Monday, May 30, 2022. Several spots are available. Contact Sharyn Esposito at 516.472.2980.

Reservation DEADLINE is Tuesday, May 20, 2022

Ministerial Search Committee
Jane Weiler, Chair

Members of the Committee would like to update the congregation on the search for a new minister.

Congregational Survey Results

Preliminary results (154 responses) of the Congregation's Ministerial Search Survey indicate the congregation prioritizes these qualities in a new minister: attentive listening and counseling; experience in pastoral care, caregiving and health; dynamic worship; innovative, collaborative programming.

Change in the Ministerial Title
The title, Minister for Congregational Life, was chosen by the Board of Trustees to replace the Pastoral Care Minister title. This change acknowledges the full range of responsibilities for this ministerial position—which prioritizes but is not limited to pastoral care.

While each minister at UUCSR has pastoral care training and provides pastoral care to the congregation, the Minister for Congregational Life will have primary responsibility for pastoral care and oversight of pastoral care administration, which includes supervising the Caring Coordinator and working with the Caring Committee.

This ministry will also engage congregants in ways which expand their involvement in congregational life: the minister working with committees, being a guide to new visitors and members, providing lay leadership support, developing new programs, assisting with spiritual deepening—being pastor, coach, facilitator, preacher and teacher.

This ministry is also part of the Sunday and Friday Worship Team. This is a ministry of presence—making more connections possible in the congregation. This minister will work in a cooperative and collegial manner with the other ministers, Music Director, Congregational Operations Administrator and the rest of the UUCSR staff, Board of Trustees and committees.

At UUCSR over the past 20 years, Rev. Jennifer's role extended beyond pastoral care so the title of Minister of Congregational Life more accurately reflects the broader responsibilities already within the position. A full description of the position is available on the UUCSR website: https://uucsr.org/employment/.

Within our denomination, new titles such as Developmental Minister and Minister for Congregational Life are being used by UUA to recognize that congregational needs have changed and, in response, new ministry roles and titles have morphed, and we want to keep up with this evolution.

Contractual Minister
Recently, the Board of Trustees modified the ministerial position from an Interim Minister position to a Contract Minister with a two-year renewal contract. A number of factors influenced this change.

Keith Kron, Director of the Transitions office at the UUA, advised us it is in UUCSR's best interest to hire a Contract Minister, primarily in order to widen the net of potential candidates. Currently, UUA has an extremely small pool of ministers available for a very large number of ministerial openings and very few interim ministers choose to serve as associate ministers.

Additionally, while it is often the case that an Interim Minister is hired after a settled minister leaves, it is not always the case. At UUCSR, with an ongoing developmental ministry in place, another minister with transitional duties is not needed.

Furthermore, within the denomination, the use of Contract Ministers is becoming more common. The contract ministry gives both the congregation and the minister time to develop a relationship and the option to renew the contract, if the relationship is mutually beneficial.

Summary
In summary, the full scope of UUCSR's new ministry will be developed in partnership with the Contract Minister, the Lead Minister and the Board of Trustees—and with ongoing interaction with and input from the congregation.

Art Committee
Paul Kopelow, Chair

Bookstore Committee
Shanti Flot, Chair

Remember The UUCSR Bookstore is open and back in business! Books, gifts, jewlery and more await! Stop by after Sunday Worship Services right off of the Main Lobby.

COMEDY NIGHT
AT THE ROCK

Saturday, June 4, 2022
7:30 PM | Social Hall

Featuring **ERIC LYDEN**

Known for "Comics Unleashed with Byron Allen" and "Gotham Comedy Live" in NYC, and several of his spot-on celebrity impressions can be heard on TV and radio nationwide. Act is Rated PG-13

Comedy Night Emcee **RICHARD BOCK**

UUCSR COMEDIC TALENT WANTED
Do you know a few jokes, have a skit or sing a funny song!
Contact Richard Bock to get a time slot at 516.922.6052

Wine, beer, beverages, hot and cold appetizers, and dessert will be served.

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF LAUGHTER!
$25 in advance | $30 at the door
uucsr.org/comedy

Yoga for Joy and Balance with Beth | Wednesdays, 4:00–5:15 PM
No Class May 18, 2022

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 tqh.Ashley@gmail.com

We look at the spiritual roots of beloved community in songs and stories by Smokey Robinson, Bruce Springsteen, B.B. King, bell hooks, Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, Martin Buber, and lots more, coming to your inbox on May 20. To get on the mailing list, email Jessica Pond at JPond@uucsr.org. Enjoy past PDFs at www.j.mp/uucsrsss.

- Alice Giordano and Steve Marston

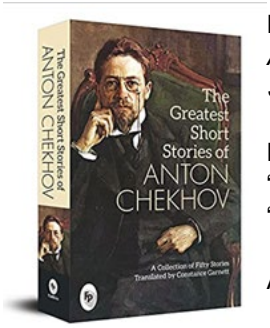
Dramatic Readings
NOTE NEW DATE: Saturday, May 7, 2022 | 6:00-9:00 PM

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.

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.



Reading: *The Greatest Short Stories of Anton Chekhov: A Collection Of Fifty Stories,* translated by Constance Garnett

May 6:
"Ward No.6," p.282
"The Black Monk," p.356

Available on Amazon HERE.

Gather live on Zoom HERE.

Green Sanctuary Committee
Stephen Ruocco, Chair

This article demonstrates the congregation's stewardship of the earth and commitment to the Seventh Principle.

Processing Food Waste

Food waste is an important factor contributing to climate change. A considerable amount of energy is expended to produce and transport the food, whether or not it is consumed. Food waste goes to landfills, emitting methane as it decays. As a contributing factor to global warming, methane is far worse than the familiar heat trapping gases, carbon dioxide, water vapor and the various oxygen, nitrogen compounds.

In poorer countries food waste is primarily due to lack of storage and refrigeration. For the wealthier nations including the U. S. it is our obsession with the shape and color of our food. No one wants a crooked carrot. This is perhaps an argument for growing some of the food we eat; we may be less critical.

The best solution seems to be to process food waste in a useful way. A proposed processing plant in Yapank, Suffolk County, will do just that. The plant will be completed in 2023 at a cost $120, 000,000. The processing begins with the removal of foreign substances including metals from the waste. By an anaerobic (no oxygen) process, methane is extracted and burned to generate electricity. While burning methane yields some of the other greenhouse gases mentioned above, this is still less detrimental to the environment.

Yield estimates for the Yapank plant are as follows. Each ton of food waste will yield 200 to 400 kilowatt-hours of electricity. The plant will process 30,000 tons a year.

Processing food waste is a good thing and we should welcome more such plants being built in other parts of the country. However, we should also keep a clear eyed view as to how much energy is to be obtained. Humans ingest between 2.5 and 3 kilowatt-hour of energy per day in the food we eat. Since food waste accounts for about 30 % of the total amount of food grown or raised as livestock, this is equivalent to about one kilowatt-hour per day per person. Estimates of how much energy we require each day range from 10 to 40 times our caloric intake. Consider that the average home on Long Island uses 20 to 30 kilowatt-hours of electricity per day in addition to the energy used for home heating and transportation.

The primary benefit of food processing is the removal of methane by burning. Regarding the electricity produced, every little bit helps.

Jim Peters for the Green Sanctuary Committee

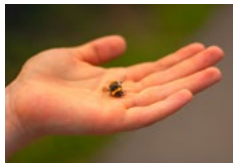
Green Sanctuary Committee and Publicity and Promotions Committee

UUCSR is pleased to partner with Landmark on Main Street to build a more just and joyful world.

Climate Action Series

A program of

Conversations From Main Street



Tuesday, May 10 | 7:30 pm

Let's Talk About Pesticides

- Keynote speaker Dan Raichel, Natural Resources Defense Council

Tuesday, May 24 | 7:30 pm

Food Scraps are the Soil-ution

- Monique Fitzgerald, climate justice advocate, Brookhaven Landfill Action and Remediation Group
- Michelle Sterling & Ron Schulhof, Scarsdale Forum Sustainability Committee & Food Scrap Recycling Committee
- Claire Brezel, Transition Town Port Washington

Tuesday, June 7 | 7:30 pm

Green Infrastucture & Adapting to Climate Change

- Joerg Theimann-Linden, Sustainable Urban Mobility Advisor
- Tricia Martin, Landscape architect Brooklyn Greenway Initiative, The Lower East Side Community Garden Resiliency Feasibility Study

A partnership to introduce community-centered climate solutions and promote individual action.

Landmark on Main Street — Jeanne Rimsky Theater

Transition Town Port Washington

Register for Zoom links on our website: www.landmarkonmainstreet.org

Lifespan Religious Education (RE)

Carson Jones, Lifespan Religious Education Coordinator

Join RE Grades 6 and 7 for their final Social Action Project Fundraiser this Mother's Day!
Sunday, May 8 around 11:45 AM (following Worship)

All are invited to join us in support of our Grades 6 and 7 Questing Year class when they hold their third and final fundraiser for their Super-Secret Social Action Project. This Mother's Day marks the revival of their traditional flower sale, this time featuring the return of Baby Blue, the super-cool, vintage Ford F-100 pick-up truck that made a huge splash on Easter last month! Come purchase beautiful flowering plants for the caregivers in your life and select homemade Mother's Day cards all for a great cause!

The Questing Year class raises donations for relief organizations they choose and agree upon themselves, and the charities are revealed in their presentation at the Bridging ceremony on June 12. Thank you all so much for coming out to contribute to the social action of our young people and additional donations can be made by credit card at this link.

Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Bedtime Stories!
Wednesday, May 4 at 7:00 PM | Live on Zoom HERE

All are welcome to join UUCSR Lifespan Religious Education Coordinator Carson Jones for this special interactive storytime as he reads three family-friendly stories celebrating Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage!

Maya Lin: Artist-Architect of Light and Lines, written by Jeanne Walker Harvey, illustrated by Dow Phumiruk

Ho'onani: Hula Warrior, written by Heather Gale, illustrated by Mika Song

The Why-Why Girl, written by Mahasweta Devi, illustrated by Kanyika Kini

May/June RE Events at-a-Glance
This is it! All the awesome activities, ceremonies, and Religious Education Classes for children and youth through the rest of this congregational year in one handy-dandy spot! Keep an eye out for more details on our exciting events, the summer program, and next year, and if you have not yet registered your family for the 2021-22 RE year, please do so by going to www.uucsr.org/RE.

Wednesday, May 4, 2022
Asian and Pacific Islander Bedtime Stories, 7:00 PM
Join on Zoom
Friday, May 6, 2022
Questing Year Retreat, 6:00 PM, Room 16 and Chapel
Sunday, May 8, 2022
RE Classes: Transition Sunday, 11:00 AM, RE Wing
Grades 6 & 7 Questing Year Mother's Day Fundraiser, 11:45 AM, Main Lobby
Young People's Choir Rehearsal, 12:30 PM, Chapel
Please note special time!
Monday, May 9, 2022
RE Committee Meeting, 7:00 AM, Join on Zoom
Sunday, May 15, 2022
Embodying Wholeness Meditation for All Ages, 10:40 AM, Meadow
Last Day of RE Classes, 11:00 AM, RE Wing
Our Whole Lives for Grades 9-10 Double Session, 11:00am, Room 18
Young People's Choir/Grades 3 & 4 UU Principles Song Rehearsal, 12:30 PM, Chapel
Please note special time!
Thursday, May 19, 2022
UU Kids Connect for Grades K-8, 7:00 AM (on Zoom REGISTER HERE)
Saturday, May 21, 2022
Coming of Age Service Rehearsal, 12:00 PM
Coming of Age Family Service and Reception, 5:00 PM
Sunday, May 22, 2022
Coming of Age Rehearsal Breakfast, 9:00 AM
Coming of Age Worship Service, 11:00 AM
Friday, May 27-Monday, May 30, 2022
All-Congregation Retreat
Wednesday, June 1, 2022
Bedtime Stories, 7:00 PM Join on Zoom
Sunday, June 5, 2022
Young People's Choir Rehearsal, 10:00 AM, Chapel
RE Car Wash Fundraiser, 10:00 AM, Lower Parking Lot
Grades 3 and 4 Eighth Principle Workshop, Room 15
Monday, June 6, 2022
RE Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM
Sunday, June 12, 2022
Bridging Worship Service, 11:00am, Worship Room
Bridging Picnic, 12:00 PM, Lawn and Meadow

Continued

Unitarian Universalist Faith in Action
Student Internships for Long Island UU Youth

The Student Activity Fund {SAF} is sponsored by the Long Island Area Council of UU Congregations {LIAC} and funded by the UU Veatch Program at Shelter Rock.
The Student Activity Fund is accepting applications for its 49th-annual internship program. SAF encourages encourage young UUs to live their religious values through internships at nonprofit agencies that focus on social action, advocacy, or social services. Our interns have worked for get-out-the-vote and civil rights campaigns, food pantries, environmental centers, music therapy programs, sustainable living think tanks, and more.

Eligibility

To apply for this year's SAF internship program, the participant must be

- a member or a child of a member in good standing at a LIAC UU congregation
- under the age of 25 on June 1, 2022

AND one of the following:

- a high school senior in fall 2022
- an undergraduate college or continuing-education student
- a gap-year student
- a spring 2022 college graduate

Paid Internship

The SAF program pays interns $13 an hour of service for senior high school students and $15 an hour for college and continuing-education students. The awards are nontaxable and are not subject to social security withholding.
The internships do not have to be on Long Island, and they can be online or in person.

Time Commitment

SAF interns may work up to 35 hours per week, for as many weeks as their schedule permits during summer. Accepted applicants must attend an orientation/leadership workshop on Zoom on Saturday, May 21, 2022.

Apply Online at SAF Application 2022-23

Deadline: Sunday, May 15, 2022

Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)
Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray, President

UUA Launches UU the Vote for 2022 Elections

Nonpartisan Civic Engagement Initiative Will Focus on Strengthening Democracy, Organizing for Justice and Accountability

Boston, Mass. (April 14, 2022) – The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is announcing that it has launched its UU the Vote initiative for the 2022 elections. UU the Vote is a nonpartisan civic engagement initiative focused on strengthening democracy and organizing for justice, accountability, and healing. The effort was launched at a virtual event (Vimeo) on Sunday, April 10th that featured UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray, Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations from across the country, and partner organizations.

"A commitment to democracy is central to our faith tradition and it is also central to our society. It is a principle that recognizes that every voice matters and is needed," said UUA President Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray. "We recognize we have an obligation to raise our voices and act on our values to strengthen democracy by fighting for fair elections, advancing voting rights, protecting abortion access, and resisting the targeting and criminalization of Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities as well as LGBTQIA+ individuals, especially trans and nonbinary people."

The UUA successfully conducted its first UU the Vote initiative in 2020. More than 450 UU congregations and more than 5,000 volunteers participated in voter mobilization, get out the vote, and election defense efforts in all 50 states during the presidential election year. Volunteers sent more than a million postcards and held more than 350 UU the Vote events in 35 states. UU the Vote also co-hosted phone banks with partners in key states, including Arizona, Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. In total, UU the Vote volunteers contacted more than 3 million voters, including outreach to more than 148,000 voters in Michigan, 45,000 voters in Pennsylvania, and 36,000 voters in Nevada.

"There is so much at stake in the 2022 elections–and not just at the federal level. There are a number of ballot initiatives across the country that will have long-term implications for reproductive justice, voting rights, direct democracy, labor rights, education, health care, and more. Our faith calls us to take action for our values, knowing these are issues that impact all of us - but especially those who are already most marginalized in our society," said Rev. Ashley Horan, Organizing Strategy Director for the Unitarian Universalist Association. "For this year, UU the Vote will focus on those ballot initiatives as well make sure all communities can and do access their right to vote at the local, state, and federal levels."

The UUA is the central organization for the Unitarian Universalist (UU) religious movement in the United States. The Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock is a member congregation.

Women's Group
Diane Mansell, Women's Group President

Women's Film Discussion Series

Third and Fourth (or fifth if occurs) Fridays monthly | 7:30 PM
With co-hosts Maria Ceraulo and
Victoria Pilotti, Center for the Women of New York
Watch the film before the film discussion and
join in on a lively conversation.
May 20: *Inventing Anna*
May 27: *The Unforgivable*, starring Sandra Bullock
Both available on Netflix
Join Zoom meetings **HERE**

TGIF

Friday, May 6, 2022 | 7:00 PM
Spring: Welcome to the Season of Renewal
Helpful Hints to Refresh Your Mindset

Spring is the time of renewal, growth and expansion.

The symbolism of rebirth that is synonymous with spring also holds true to your state of mind. Join Lilyan Strassman, Psychotherapist - Life Coach, and the Women's Group as we explore how to refresh ourselves and live our best life moving forward. Also, we will have a Loving Kindness Meditation led by Phyllis K. DeMarinis, Yoga Instructor. Join via Zoom **HERE.**

Book Series

All are welcome.
Third Fridays Monthly | 3:30 PM | Join HERE.
Please contact Sharyn Esposito to learn more.
sesposito@uucsr.org or 516.472.2960

May 20, 2022	*A Burning* By Megha Majumdar Discussion led by Judy Douenias
June 17, 2022	*The Cellist* By Daniel Silva Discussion led by Aida Nema

Please visit uucsr.org/wg for additional details including a full list of titles, discussion leaders, and a printable flyer.

Women Talk Daytime

Welcome Back! We heard you! We are now going multiplatform—in-person at UUCSR in the Veatch Conference Room on Zoom. You can bring your lunch and coffee /tea will be provided. On May 17, the topic will be "Is there a favorite food that you enjoy eating but can't anymore because of health issues?" Sandra Frank will be in-person as Women's Group Board representative and Sari will be online as facilitator; you will all be together. Join the online session HERE.

Women's Group
Maria Ceraulo, Chair, Women's Issues

Women's Lives Matter

I remember how upset and distraught I was when I realized my charm bracelet was missing. It was a gift from my Dad for my sweet sixteen birthday. I searched and searched—an all-out effort to find it. I never did. The memory returned as I read about missing women in Mexico. I can't imagine the grief one might experience at the disappearance of a mother, a daughter.

As upset as I was, the bracelet was just a thing, not a person, not a daughter. Yet there are thousands of missing women, someone's daughters in Mexico. The *New York Times* reported that more than 24,000 are missing nationwide. Since 2017, there's been a 40 percent increase. All of this coincides with surges in violence, rises in organized crime, domestic violence, and sex trafficking.

I left no stone unturned in my quest to find my bracelet. Looking high and low, in every conceivable place, it remains lost. Wouldn't one expect that the government would do something resembling a search to find these missing women? Wouldn't one expect them to do their jobs and conduct a thorough investigation—not for a bracelet, but for disappeared women?

The *New York Times* reported that authorities failed to carry out proper investigations or prosecute femicide cases. There is impunity. In Mexico. authorities turned their backs on these missing women and their families. There was no justice. The United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearances called on Mexico to address the issue as more than 95,000 people were registered as disappeared—8,000 a year in the past five years. Only 2 to 6 percent were prosecuted.

As if these statistics are not damning enough, the state prosecutor attributed the disappearances to a "lack of communication" among families, and "rebelliousness among teens." The women were "voluntarily" missing. The tactic of "blaming the victim" surfaces again. When 27-year-old Yolanda was missing, it took the authorities 2 weeks to even visit her home. Her father said, "It starts to feed our despair". His daughter is still missing.

There has been an outpouring of public help in finding the missing women. Desperate families began their own searches, sometimes even in the fields for remnants of dead bodies. Hundreds of women took to the streets to protest a newly confirmed death. Media attention forced an investigation into one case when photos of a woman who was left on the highway went viral on social media.

After all, women's lives do matter. Ignoring and playing down the cases are not going to stand. Blaming the victim is no longer acceptable. We hope that all those lost will be found.

Event Announcements

ALL PROGRAMS ARE ONLINE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
Please see UUCSR.org/calendar for additional details. See LIACUU.org for other area congregations.

Thursday, May 5, 2022

10:00 AM, Living Solo
1:00 PM, Bridge Game Play, Art Gallery
5:00 PM, Veatch Engagement Task Force Meeting
7:00 PM, "White Too Long" with Robert P. Jones, PhD Online

Friday, May 6, 2022

12:00 PM, Great Books Discussion
4:00 PM, Community Conversations - Hadley House
6:00 PM, OWL Retreat, RE Room 6
6:00 PM, Questing Year Retreat, Chapel, RE Room 16, TRC
6:30 PM, LGBTQ+ Online Gathering
7:00 PM, Online TGIF - Spring: Welcome to the Season of Renewal - Helpful Hints to Refresh Your Mindset

Saturday, May 7, 2022

8:30 AM, Ministerial Search Committee Meeting, HH Solarium
6:00 PM, Dramatic Readings

Sunday, May 8, 2022

9:00 AM, Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, Choir Rehearsal Room
9:00 AM, Small Group Ministry - 2nd Sunday of the Month, VM Room 1
9:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Social Hall, Social Hall
10:00 AM, Choir Rehearsal, Worship Room
10:30 AM, Sunday Morning Experience, Online Meeting Room 2
11:00 AM, Religious Education (RE) Classes, RE Wing
11:00 AM, *Sunday Service "Mama's Day"* led by Natalie Fenimore, Worship Room, Online
11:05 AM, Embodying Wholeness - Children's Worship for All Ages, Chapel
11:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Social Hall, Social Hall
11:45 AM, Coffee Hour
11:45 AM, RE Grades 6 & 7 Questing Year Mother's Day Fundraiser, Main Lobby
12:30 PM, Mother's Day Luncheon , Veatch House
12:30 PM, Young People's Choir Rehearsal, Chapel

Monday, May 9, 2022

9:00 AM, Medical Qigong for Senior Health – Balance!
6:30 PM, UU the Vote Online National Letter Writing Party
7:00 PM, RE Committee Meeting
7:00 PM, Working Groups Task Force Meeting
7:00 PM, Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

1:30 PM, VBOG May Policy Meeting - Guest Speaker Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray - President of UUA , Social Hall and Online
3:00 PM, Art Committee Meeting
7:15 PM, Program Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

10:00 AM, Building a Better Brain for a Better Life
11:00 AM, Crafting for Sanity and Community Online Get-Together
2:00 PM, Wednesday Conversations
4:00 PM, Women's Group General Membership Meeting
4:00 PM, Yoga for Joy and Balance with Beth
4:30 PM, Women's Group Online Board Meeting
6:00 PM, Ukulele Group Practice
6:30 PM, Dining Solo Together!

Thursday, May 12, 2022

10:00 AM, Living Solo
1:00 PM, Bridge Game Play, Veatch Ballroom
7:00 PM, Member Resource Committee Meeting

Friday, May 13, 2022

12:00 PM, Great Books Discussion
6:30 PM, LGBTQ+ Online Gathering
7:30 PM, Soulful Sundown, Social Hall and Online

Saturday, May 14, 2022

10:00 AM, Caring Committee Meeting

Sunday, May 15, 2022

9:00 AM, Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, Choir Rehearsal Room
9:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Social Hall, Social Hall
10:00 AM, Choir Rehearsal, Worship Room
10:30 AM, Sunday Morning Experience
10:40 AM, Embodying Wholeness Meditation for All Ages, Meadow
11:00 AM, RE Our Whole Lives Double Session, RE Room 18
11:00 AM, Religious Education (RE) Classes, RE Wing
11:00 AM, *Sunday Service:Sound Beauty,* led By Rev. Nic Filzen, Worship Room and Online
11:05 AM, Children's Worship for All Ages, Chapel
11:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Social Hall, Social Hall
11:45 AM, Coffee Hour
12:00 PM, Inquirers 6: RE Rm 4
12:15 PM, Sharing Your Gifts: Worship Associate Training 101, Worship Rm
12:30 PM, Small Group Ministry - 1st Sunday of the Month, Bride's Room
12:30 PM, Young People's Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
1:00 PM, Love & Stitches, RE Room 9 and 15
1:00 PM, Tri County Artist of L.I. - Reception, Art Gallery

Monday, May 16, 2022

9:00 AM, Medical Qigong for Senior Health – Balance!
5:45 PM, Membership Committee Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM, Care for the Caregiver

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

12:30 PM, Women Talk Daytime Meeting - Multiplatform, Veatch Conference Room and Online
2:00 PM, BOT/Staff Leadership Meeting, Office Conference Room
3:00 PM, Online NAMI Criminal Justice Meeting
7:00 PM, Artist & Technologist - Online
7:00 PM, Board of Trustees Meeting
7:00 PM, Living With Cancer

DISCLAIMER:
Quest may include views or opinions that do not necessarily reflect official policy, views of the respective boards or committees, or editorial staff.

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
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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION AT SHELTER ROCK
48 Shelter Rock Rd. Manhasset, NY 11030 | 516.627.6560 | uucsr.org / uucsr@uucsr.org

May 4, 2022

Developmental Minister
Rev. Jaye Brooks (jbrooks@uucsr.org)
Minister for Pastoral Care
Rev. Jennifer L. Brower (jbrower@uucsr.org)
Lead Minister and Minister of Lifespan Religious Education
Rev. Dr. Natalie M. Fenimore (nfenimore@uucsr.org)
Congregation Operations Administrator
Adam Barshak (abarshak@uucsr.org)
Veatch Executive Director
Joan Minieri (joan@veatch.org)
Music Director
Stephen Michael Smith (ssmith@uucsr.org)
Lifespan Religious Education Coordinator
Carson Jones (cjones@uucsr.org)
Social Justice Coordinator
Claire Deroche (cderoche@uucsr.org)
Membership Coordinator
Abigail Highland (ahighland@uucsr.org)

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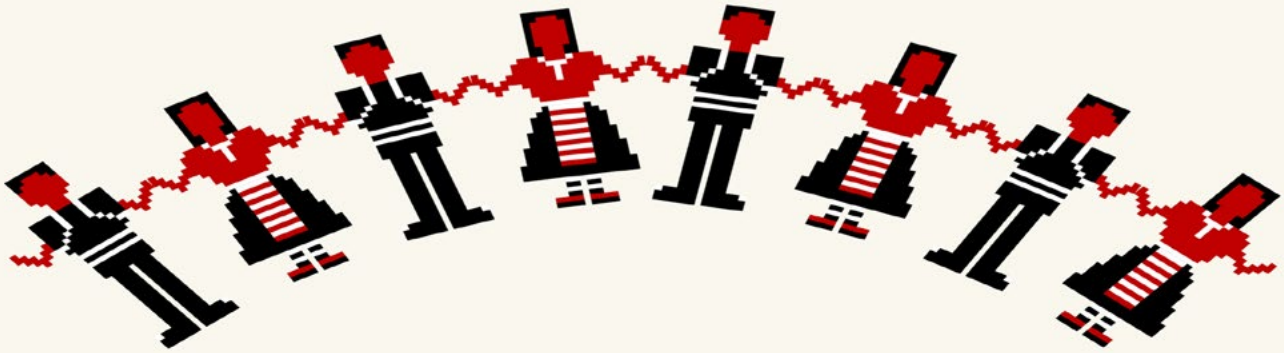
Next *Quest*: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 | Deadline for Content: Thursday, May 12, 2022

SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2022 | 1:00 PM | SOCIAL HALL



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