Worship Services

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022, 11:00 AM**  
Erol Delos Santos, Student Minister

**Settling the Sands**  
When faced with change, we often feel like we are standing at the edge of a precipice, looking out into uncertainty. One way to help adapt to change is to lean on the things that provide stability in unstable times. Join Erol Delos Santos, our student minister, as we reflect on identifying spiritual resources and how to use them to soften moments of transition.*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022, 11:00 AM**  
Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore

**What Wonderous Love**  
As our Unitarian Universalist Association once again considers its Principles and Purposes, the Article II Bylaws Commission asks us to center Love as the enduring force that holds us together. What are your thoughts on the re-visioning of the Principles and Purposes of our Association? How might we move love to the center of the mission and vision of our faith?*

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2022, 7:30 PM**  
Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore

**Soulful Sundown**  
Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore weaves spoken word with music from the Cosmic Orchestra. Special Guest Musical Artist Lucy Kaplansky will be featured in an onsite-only Coffee House following. Coffee, tea, cookies. All are welcome. FREE and open to all. *

*Worship Services are in-person AND livestreamed! Masks are encouraged and required for singing. Livestreams available on uucsr.org/worship, Facebook, and YouTube. Podcasts available afterward. The Sunday Morning Experience is available online using just one link! Beginning at 10:45 am, join via Zoom, then stay for live Worship Service and Coffee Hour. Join HERE.*

Thanksgiving Message

Percival Chubb was a Fabian socialist in Britain and later an immigrant to the United States. He lectured at the Pratt Institute and became a leading member of the Ethical Culture movement in New York. We remember his words in our Unitarian Universalist hymnal, *Singing the Living Tradition,* in a selection called, “A Harvest of Gratitude.” There he notes, “Once more the fields have ripened to harvest, and the fruitful earth has fulfilled the promise of spring. From the harvest of the soil we are given occasion to garner a harvest of the heart and mind.”

At harvest time, we turn our hearts and minds to a celebration of the bounty of the earth and our gratitude for the hands that have labored to bring that bounty into our lives. Around tables laden with fruits and vegetables, nuts and grains, and—for some of us—an animal or two, we enjoy ourselves among family and friends.

This is how it is. We humans live in the cycles of the earth. We live in seasons of planting and growing, of harvesting and preserving, and periods of rest. There resides the harvest of the soil.

We are a people who live in profound abundance. We are encouraged, then, to attend to the harvest of the heart and mind. We have astonishing resources in our lives, not the least of which is this congregation. In our services of worship, in our faith development activities, in our membership activities, and in the ways we show concern for our campus—in all of these, we have a chance to exhibit this harvest. The justice that our faith longs for. The equity that is the basis out of which justice may emerge. The compassion that reveals the depth of our heart, the breadth of our mind.

Gather ’round the table! Savor the food and friendship, family, and spirit. Share the love with others—and even for one’s self. And, Mr. Chubb encourages, attend to “a harvest of reverence for the wondrous power and life at work in things that grow, and in the soul.”

Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore  
Rev. David Carl Olson  
Rev. Jaye Brooks
holiday
HAPPENINGS

worship services

Sunday, November 27 | 11:00 AM | Settling the Sands, led by Erol Delos Santos.

Sunday, December 4 | 11:00 AM | What Wonderous Love, led by Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore.

Friday, December 9 | 7:30 PM | Soulful Sundown live onsite and online, led by Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore with the Cosmic Orchestra. Onsite-only Coffee House follows with special guest musician Lucy Kaplansky.

Sunday, December 11 | 11:00 AM | Star of Wonder, led by Rev. Jaye Brooks.

Sunday, December 18 | 11:00 AM | Holiday Family Service: Love Makes Miracles, led Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore and Erol Delos Santos. Lunch will be a celebration of the first day of Hanukkah.

Wednesday, December 21 | 3:30 PM | Winter Solstice Service Onsite outdoors if weather permits and online, led by Rev. David Carl Olson with Erol Delos Santos and members of the Green Sanctuary Committee. Willow will participate.

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve led by Shelter Rock Ministers will offer two Services, both with candlelighting and Silent Night:

5 PM Family Service will be full of music with the Young People’s Choir joining with Adult Choir and Jazz Ensemble presenting the music of A Charlie Brown Christmas.

7 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service will be meditative with music and readings.


Sunday, January 1, 2023 | 11:00 AM | led by GuestMinister Rev. Oscar Sinclair.

activities

Friday, December 2 | 7-9 PM | An Evening of Song with Willow onsite and online.

Sunday, December 4 | 12:30-2 | RE Holiday Decorations Crafting Party | $5 suggested donation.

Sunday, December 11 | 2:00 PM | Messiah Sing | FREE.

Wednesday, December 14 | 7-7:30 PM | Hanukkah and Christmas Bedtime Stories Live on Zoom.

Saturday, December 17 | 6:30-9 PM | Men’s Group Holiday Sing-Along & Dessert Tasting Party.

Saturday, December 31 | 7:30 PM to 12:30 AM | New Year’s Eve Gala—Childcare available.

Registration, links, and more: www.uucsr.org/calendar
Holiday Generosity

Every Sunday, we take a special collection to support nonprofit groups that serve human need. This holiday season, all Worship Service offerings will provide support to two organizations:

The North Shore Soup Kitchen—is a not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization established in 1989 to feed hungry people in the Glen Cove area. It is staffed by a group of more than 100 volunteers. These volunteers cook, serve, and clean up after meals. UUCSR has supported the North Shore Soup Kitchen for decades.

The AIDS Center of Queens County—Since 1986, the AIDS Center of Queens County (ACQC) has grown to become the largest provider of HIV/AIDS services in the borough of Queens, serving over 10,000 HIV+ clients, and 30,000 community residents in 5 sites throughout the borough. For many years, UUCSR has supported ACQC at Thanksgiving and at Christmas with the Mitten Tree.

Choose from four ways to donate:
1. Visit uucsr.org/give online OR
2. You may use the QR code to access:
   a. Open the camera app on your phone.
   b. Hold your phone so the QR code appears in view but don’t take a photo.
   c. Tap the notification to open the donation page on the UUCSR website.
3. Text 516.210.2528 OR
4. On PayPal.com, to send money to: donate@uucsr.org
5. Pay by check by dropping in the collection box in the Main Lobby or by sending to the UUCSR Finance Office. Please enter Holiday Donation on the memo line.

Please see page 8 of this edition of *Quest* for information about cooking for guests of the INN, and donations to food pantries.

Please also see page 11 of this *Quest* to learn about Mitten Tree donations of gifts for children in need.

A donation bin for gently used shoes, boots, and clothing for men, women, and children is located in the lower level parking lot. Please place articles in plastic bags to benefit the United Veterans Beacon House.

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization advancing human rights together with an international community of grassroots partners and advocates. Its work is “grounded in the belief that all people have inherent power and dignity.” Donate HERE.

Thank you for sharing your gifts to whatever extent is possible.

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Men’s Group
Larry Hass, Chair

The Annual Holiday

Sing-along & Dessert Tasting Party!

Saturday, December 17, 2022
6:30 PM • Art Gallery

Sing Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa Songs

$5 DONATION OR

BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE!

Caroling
Holiday Beverages
Dessert Tasting
Kwanzaa storytelling and music performed by Atiba

Sandwich bites and desserts will be served

Richard Bock
Pianist

RSVP at uucsr.org/singalong2022

Atiba
A Message From the President

I often make the drive north on the Taconic Parkway to Columbia County. It is truly a Norman Rockwell painting for much of the way up, which isn’t surprising since he lived in Stockbridge, MA, just over the NY border. As Thanksgiving approaches, I often think about how those families forever captured in Rockwell’s vision are actually struggling with some fundamental issues that I can’t begin to truly understand. I’m a single parent kid from Brooklyn, where three or four languages were spoken within a few blocks of home. Life on a farm that has been in one family for generations and depends on the weather season after season for its very existence is totally foreign to me. Now as I drive past all those miles of nature and farmland, I do start to think that it’s no wonder we are a divided state as well as a divided nation. How can people who live on a 100-acre farm in Hawthorne have any understanding of people who live in a four-story walk-up in Brooklyn?

We have just endured months of contentious rhetoric around the midterm elections. Some of us are relieved by the outcome and others are confused and angry. We are now bombarded with hundreds of explanations by the “experts” as to why people voted the way they did, but are any of us any closer to understanding how the “other half” really feels? We tend to demonize the other side for not understanding what we see as obvious but our day-to-day lives are fundamentally different from each other, so should the way people vote determine how we view them as people?

As Unitarian Universalists, we talk a lot about inclusion but do we only mean including those people who think the way we do? Can we still love and respect people who stand on the opposite side of a political issue?

Thanksgiving has become a triggering time for many friends and family who feel compelled to share a meal with people who they know to feel very differently about the world. As passionate UUs, we believe in the dignity of all people and their right to acceptance, and we value their individual search for truth, even if that truth is different from our truth. We honor and value diversity, and that does not only mean in skin color and place of birth, but in thoughts and beliefs.

Unitarian Universalism isn’t easy. We fight hard for what we believe but are bound by Principles that value those who believe differently. That is what makes Unitarian Universalism unique among faiths and what draws me to it more and more each day. I am forever thankful for its guidance in this uneasy world.

May you all have an opportunity to live our faith this Thanksgiving.
Denominational Affairs Committee (DAC)
Barry Nobel, Chair

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is a denomination-wide organization that works to advance UU values throughout the world. Here are a few of their current projects:

This past summer, UUSC hosted a convening of Pacific Island leaders to discuss problems caused by climate change—specifically sea-level rise, which threatens to destroy their homes. The conference was a continuation of discussions that also included Alaskan First Nations, as the Arctic is experiencing the greatest global warming of the planet.

Closer to home, UUSC’s Congregational Accompaniment Project for Asylum Seekers (CAPAS) supports congregations that offer solidarity to people arriving in the US, such as housing, legal representation, medical care, and transportation. CAPAS provides connection, expertise, and advocacy.

UUSC received a Crisis Grant last spring to advance their work with on-the-ground partners in Poland and Hungary to benefit the Ukraine. That work also continues.

This holiday season, we all have an opportunity to advance UUSC’s important work. Please accept a Gift at Your Table Box and give generously. To find out more, visit their website, www.uusc.org.

Student Activity Fund Seeks Part-Time Program Director

The Student Activity Fund (SAF) of the Long Island Area Council of UU Congregations (LIAC) seeks a Part-Time Program Director, beginning March 1, 2023. SAF is a student internship program that pays UU students to work at self-selected nonprofits that encourage them to live their religious values and that focus on social action, advocacy, or social services.

SAF is supported by the UU Veatch Program at Shelter Rock.

For more information about the SAF program, visit liacuu.org. To see the full job listing, click HERE.

SUNDAYS AT SHELTER ROCK

Bagel Breakfast Is Back!
Sundays, 9:00–10:30 AM

Every Sunday you can, once again, stop by the Social Hall for a bagel breakfast for just $1! Coffee and tea are FREE. Remember: No food or drink is permitted in the Worship Room.

Every Sunday | 10:45 AM–12:15 PM | Join using just one link. Worship Service is livestreamed and shared in the Zoom room. Afterward, stay on during online Coffee Hour. Join HERE, or call: 646.558.8656, Meeting ID: 829 6436 6095

Fellowship Hour
After Worship Service Every Sunday

Let’s break bread together after Worship in a UU way with Coffee Hour and Sunday Café in the Social Hall.

Sunday Café by Committee is an all-new luncheon series following Worship Services. Each week, a different group offers a special meal at a moderate cost (projected to be $5–$7). Occasionally, groups may organize lunches as fundraisers for special causes (maximum $10). Details regarding menu and cost is publicized on the UUCSR calendar and in the Sunday morning eblast.

You may always count on a simple meal that will carry you through the afternoon! Coffee and tea always available at no charge. All are welcome.

UUCSR offers transportation assistance to Worship Services for members who are unable to travel due to physical or financial limitations. Email ministryteam@uucsr.org, or call 516.472.2941 for an application.

LONG ISLAND AREA COUNCIL (LIAC)

Student Activity Fund Seeks Part-Time Program Director

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SAF is supported by the UU Veatch Program at Shelter Rock.

For more information about the SAF program, visit liacuu.org. To see the full job listing, click HERE.
Board of Trustees Launches Land Management Leadership Team

The Board of Trustees (BOT) recently charged a new team—the Land Management Leadership Team (LMLT)—to bring the congregation’s attention to the many wonderful qualities of our property so we can together adopt a statement and vision of ongoing land management. (Please excuse more letters in our alphabet soup.) The LMLT members are Iliza Bartels, Carol Garbarino, Dana Gumb, Paul Kopelow, and Stephen Ruocco. Our goal is to prepare the congregation to vote on a sustainable land management statement and affirm the land management plan at the March 2023 Congregational Meeting. Over the next few months, the LMLT will be engaging the congregation in discussion of the Landscape Master Plan, in order to spur conversation and answer questions in advance of the meeting. The LMLT would like to acknowledge the efforts of the Green Sanctuary and Building and Grounds Committees, among others, who worked with outside experts to develop the plan.

The plan was guided by our Seventh Principle, which concerns respect for the interdependent web of all existence; we look to highlight the need to actively care for our wonderful UUCSR property. Some of the projects in the plan have begun with congregational approval through the capital budget. As many have already experienced, the Lobby Patio has been significantly modified to be more inviting, with spaces carved out for meetings, picnics, and native plantings. The second project concerns the woodland perimeter along the great lawn which has been cleared of invasive plants that were choking out native species. The next phase of the project is to plant native species. Future projects may include revitalized waste and storm water management systems, consideration of a conservation easement to protect the woodland in perpetuity from development, and appointing a land management professional. Each project will be dependent on an appropriate approval process.

Expect to hear from the LMLT over the next months in various formats. We will be presenting the Land Management Plan across a number of venues during this time. The congregation’s engagement in this project will be vital to making stewardship of UUCSR’s property a reality.

Invitational Walk and Land Management Plan Update

Sunday, December 4, 2022 | 1:00 PM

Join the Land Management Leadership Team, Green Sanctuary Committee, and Buildings & Grounds Committee for a 35-minute walk on UUCSR’s property. See Land Management projects already underway. Talk to team members about the Land Management Plan roll-out. Join us in the Main Lobby followed by exercise and education.

Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) News

The SRI Committee has recommended to the Board of Trustees the investment in five Credit Unions:
- Latino Credit Union, Durham NC (6/21 renew)
- Freedom First Federal Credit Union
- One Detroit Credit Union
- DC Credit Union
- Santa Cruz Credit Union

Credit Unions are cooperative financial institutions owned and operated by their members—not shareholders. Their boards of directors are elected, not appointed. Credit Unions offer higher interest rates on deposit accounts and charge lower fees than traditional banks. They offer many benefits, such as financial coaching for borrowers, credit rating score improvement training, and immigration fee support.

Low-income borrowers who ordinarily need to pay extremely high interest rates on loans can obtain them more easily and at a much lower rate from local Credit Unions. Personalized customer service from local area experts encourages continued membership and growth in the community. Credit Unions often support grants for teachers and scholarships for local students.

Membership in a Credit Union is often a first step in becoming involved in community projects. The SRI Committee continues to seek out ways to bring equity financing to lesser-served individuals and communities.
A Long Island Tradition Returns!

**Messiah Sing**

**at Shelter Rock**

**Sunday, December 11, 2022**

**2:00 PM**

The Orchestra at Shelter Rock
Stephen Michael Smith, Music Director

with acclaimed soloists

Sarah Moulton Faux, soprano  Michael St. Peter, tenor
Leah Wool, mezzo-soprano  Brace Negron, bass-baritone

OPEN TO EVERYONE—FREE ADMISSION!

VOCAL SCORES PROVIDED
Sing along or simply listen

Reception to follow in the Shelter Rock Art Gallery
Adequate free parking, handicapped accessible

48 Shelter Rock Rd
Manhasset, NY 11030
uucsr.org | 516.627.6560
Immigration Update

With the holidays nearly upon us, thoughts naturally turn to family and home. It’s a time to be together. For some, however, this can be a difficult and lonely time. In the United States holidays are not happy times for those without a job, without the means to feed their families, and for those in our jails and prisons.

On a larger scale, there are millions of people around the globe whose only thought is to survive. Most would stay home if they could. But when staying home means being imprisoned for protesting an authoritarian government or being killed by the gangs in your town, people are forced to flee. When the drought has lasted for years, your crops have failed, and you cannot feed your family, you seek ways to save your family and yourself.

Although the recent mid-term elections took up a lot of airtime on news shows, immigration is slowly rising to the top of news feeds once again. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is one program that’s back in the spotlight. This program has allowed young people brought to this country as youngsters, who meet certain criteria, to apply to remain in the United States and work without fear of deportation. Of the 1.2 million young people without documents who were eligible to apply for the program, currently a little more 600,000 hold that status.

According to many advocates and experts on immigration, what the United States needs is a complete overhaul of its immigration system. Completing the promise of DACA may be a good place to start. Senator Chuck Schumer of New York and Senator Dick Durbin of Illinois are working to get the American Dream and Promise Act passed before the end of this session of Congress. This would provide the path to legal residency and ultimately citizenship that Dreamers have been working so hard to win.

For more information about the American Dream and Promise Act, go to UUs for Social Justice. There you can also send a message to Congress urging passage of this important piece of legislation. UUCSR members have been supportive of immigration reform for many years. The Dreamers are still counting on us. They want to call this country their forever home!

Online, Interactive Membership Directory

A highly secure, interactive directory built into the UUCSR membership database is in the process of rollout.

- Changes are instantly available and always up-to-date.
- Participation is controlled by individual members.
- Emails or phone calls can be initiated by one-touch on enabled devices such as a mobile phone or computer.
- Preferences are easily selected and may always be changed:
- Your information will not appear until you accept, and your preferences will not display until you accept them.

Please watch for an email and accept your invitation to participate in the online directory. The invitations will be rolled out slowly over the course of the next several weeks so we may provide prompt assistance, if desired.
The Impact of Long-Term Organizing Is on Display This Election Cycle

This year's midterms prove voters care deeply about protecting our democratic institutions. And we can take another clear lesson from the election results as well: long-term organizing works. For decades, Veatch grantees have been working on the ground, in historically underrepresented communities, to train and educate leaders and move them to action—and to the polls. Veatch grantees do this work each and every day, but the collective power built by these grassroots organizations is on full display come election time.

Collectively, this year Veatch grantees and their members contacted millions of voters, at the doors and on the phones, and registered thousands of people to vote from traditionally marginalized communities. Veatch grantees are hard at work in cities, suburbs, and rural communities throughout the country. On election day, they encouraged community members to make their voices heard in support of policies that support workers, protect immigrants, sustain the environment, and center justice and progressive values.

That work paid off in big ways this year. The Center for Popular Democracy and its affiliates helped approve ballot measures that will bring more accountability to police departments in Akron, OH, and Baltimore, MD. Oakland Rising turned out voters to support the Cause for Eviction Ordinance, extending tenant protections. Nebraska Appleseed helped raise the minimum wage in the state to $15 an hour. And Veatch grantees helped ensure that, wherever abortion was on the ballot this election cycle, voters turned out to support reproductive freedoms. You are encouraged to sign up for Veatch News Updates, and check the Veatch blog, where there is a more comprehensive list of the hard-fought for accomplishments of Veatch grantees this election cycle.

There were disappointments this year, too, and a lot more work lies ahead. But as the 2022 election cycle comes to a close, rest assured that Veatch grantees aren’t slowing down in their fight to build and protect our multiracial democracy and expand protections and rights for working people.

Climate Cycles

In 1938, the Serbian astronomer, Milutin Milankovitch, proposed that three cycles in the Earth's orbital motion predicted glacial periods: ellipticity, obliquity, and precession. Some argue that the Milankovitch cycles entirely explain climate change rather than manmade causes. It is worth explaining what the cycles are and how they affect climate.

If the Earth revolved about the sun in a perfectly circular orbit, solar radiation would be the same year round. However, the orbit is elliptical, attaining a maximum distance from the sun at one time of year and a minimum distance six months later. Solar radiation is less at a greater distance. The area of the ellipse remains the same year to year, but its elongation changes over a 100,000 year period. At the extreme, solar radiation can differ by 25 percent in one year. At present, ellipticity is close to 0, the difference in solar radiation, less than 7 percent. We are closest to the Sun in early January so this makes our winter a bit warmer and Australia’s summer a bit hotter than would be the case for a completely circular orbit.

It is the tilt of the Earth’s axis of rotation as it revolves about the sun that causes the seasons. This obliquity varies between 22.1 to 24.5 degrees over a 41,000 year period. This coincides with the observed duration of interglacial periods in support of the Milankovitch theory. The present angle of tilt is 23.4 degrees. Precession is an interesting phenomenon regarding rotational motion. Picture a top spinning on the floor, rotating rapidly in one direction. The top will wobble, slowly tracing out a cone about its axis of rotation in the opposite direction. This cycle of precession takes 25,800 years for the Earth. Quite slow compared to the 24-hour period of rotation. Precession changes the nighttime sky over time, shifting back the time when the equinoxes and solstices occur each year. (Astrology reckons the Common Era, the age of Pisces, with Aquarius dawning.)

While the science behind these cycles is interesting, they hardly account for the climate changes observed in the scant 270 years since the industrial revolution. Burning fossil fuel releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere which traps heat, increasing global temperature.

Climate change deniers often say that climate is changing all the time, due to causes beyond our control. But burning fossil fuels is a choice, a foolhardy one when renewable energy sources are cheaper.

Jim Peters for the Green Sanctuary Committee

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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.
Calling All Young Artists!

The RE Art Exhibition returns to the Art Gallery this December with works of art created entirely by the children and youth in Religious Education!

Some pieces are being made in RE classes, and we also want to display any artwork made at home or in school. All forms of art are welcome: paintings, illustrations, sculptures, photography, models, pottery, knitting, embroidery, fashion design, animation and other digital creations, musical compositions (recorded or live)… you name it!

All masterpieces need to be brought in by

Friday
December 2, 2022

The exhibit will have its opening reception on

Sunday
December 4, 2022

Please look out for tables in the RE Lobby on Sundays or e-mail Carson Jones at cjones@uucsr.org to

Arrange Submissions

RE Holiday Decorations Crafting Party

Sunday, December 4, 2022
12:30 PM • Social Hall
$5 suggested donation

Come celebrate the season with us!

Special Guest Visitor, Too!
Friends Are Welcome!
**Hanukkah and Christmas Bedtime Stories!**
**Wednesday, December 14, 2022 | 7:00 pm**
Live on Zoom HERE

Join Carson Jones for an interactive storytime as he reads two family-friendly stories celebrating Hanukkah and Christmas!

*Meet the Latkes*
written and illustrated by Alan Silberberg

*Emmet Otter’s Jug-Band Christmas*
written by Russell Hoban
illustrated by Lillian Hoban

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**Dramatic Readings | Saturday, December 10, 2022 | 6:00–9:00 pm**

*The Audience* by Peter Morgan

About the play: “For sixty years Elizabeth II met each of her twelve Prime Ministers in a weekly audience at Buckingham Palace. Both parties have an unspoken agreement never to repeat what is said, not even to their spouses. The Audience breaks this contract of silence and imagines a series of pivotal meetings between the Downing Street incumbents and their Queen.”

Join Zoom Meeting HERE.
Or join via telephone: call 646.558.8656
Meeting ID: 817 7007 7772 Passcode: 798549

Please RSVP to Carson Jones at cjones@uucsr.org by November 30, 2022, if you would like a PDF of the play emailed to you or to receive a physical copy in the mail.

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**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. Live on Zoom HERE. All are welcome.

The new anthology for the next few months is *Great Conversations 3*, available through the Great Books Store

November 25 No session for Thanksgiving weekend
December 2 *Selected Poems*, by Wislawa Szymborska
December 9 *The Body of the Condemned*, by Michel Foucault
December 16 *Interpreter of Maladies*, by Jhumpa Lahiri
December 23 No session for Christmas weekend
December 30 No session for New Year’s weekend
January 6 *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, by Luigi Pirandello

Please e-mail Carson Jones at cjones@uucsr.org if you would like to receive email notifications about Great Books Discussions.

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

$50 for 5 classes, $12 per drop-in class (See info HERE)

Instructor Ashley Baldwin offers online classes that strengthen your balance and overall body confidence! Exercises are taught standing, with equally effective guidance for those who prefer to sit. Ashley Zooms in every Monday morning to help you center your body and mind, directly from Thailand. Register HERE or email tghAshley@gmail.com

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**The Mitten Tree Holiday Gift Donation Drive**
Now Until December 4, 2022

There’s still time to participate in the Mitten Tree gift donation drive! Thanks so much to everyone who has already participated in this year’s drive! There are still recipients to choose from, so please visit the Mitten Tree in the Main Lobby any day of the week to select mittens labeled with the ages of children you wish to buy gifts for, or please feel free to contact Carson Jones at cjones@uucsr.org to reserve mittens in advance. Please bring in your unwrapped gifts labeled with the mittens you chose and place them under the Mitten Tree by no later than, Sunday, December 4. We are collecting unwrapped toys, games, and gift cards to be given as holiday gifts to the families served by the AIDS Center of Queens County (ACQC). This year, we are providing donations to 187 children and youth, ranging from newborns to age 18. We thank you all for including families in need in your holiday shopping!
Women’s Film Discussion Series

Third and Fourth Fridays monthly | 7:30 PM
With co-hosts Maria Ceraulo and Victoria Pilot, Center for the Women of New York

Friday, November 25: The Dressmaker (Amazon Prime)
Friday, December 16: All Quiet on the Western Front (Netflix)
Friday, December 23: Catherine Called Birdy (Amazon Prime)

Watch the films in advance, then join Zoom meetings for lively conversation 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

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Discussion led by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 16, 2022</td>
<td>Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict</td>
<td>Aida Nema</td>
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<td>January 20, 2023</td>
<td>Search by Michelle Huneven</td>
<td>Patti Paris</td>
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<td>February 17, 2023</td>
<td>Rogues: True Stories of Grifters, Killers, Rebels and Crooks, by Patrick Radden Keefe</td>
<td>Ursala Salamone</td>
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Please visit uucsr.org/wg for additional details including a full list of titles, discussion leaders, and a printable flyer.

Women Talk Daytime

Sandra Hazel Frank, facilitator

Onsite in the Veatch Conference Room and online on Zoom. First and third Tuesdays monthly at 12:00 Noon. Bring your lunch and coffee/tea will be provided.

The first Tuesday of the month, the topic is Current Events. On December 20, the topic is “Pros and Cons of Marriage. What keeps couples together. Relationships.”

Wisdom, companionship, and compassion are what we bring to one another through conversation. Come share your insights. We will all be together! You are welcome to attend in person at UUCSR or join online HERE.

Women’s Film Discussion Series

Finding Angels on the Route

It was a blessing from her mother. When she left Venezuela with her 6-year-old daughter, Sarah, Ms. Cuauro’s mom offered her this blessing: “You’re going to find angels.”

On the journey through one of the most untouched rainforests, a 66-mile roadless Darien Gap, they endured extreme hardships. Feet so blistered she could barely walk, Ms. Cuauro asked for help carrying her daughter. A man who left his own 6-year-old at home, lifted Sarah onto his shoulders. As they approached the Hill of Death, they turned around and Sarah’s mom was gone. Mr. Garcia crawled with Sarah, climbed over fallen tree logs and roots. He had no idea where Sarah’s mom was or if they would ever find her. With very little to eat for himself, he took care of Sarah for three days, reassuring her, “be calm, be calm.”

There was a picture on the front page of the New York Times. It showed Angel Garcia carrying Sarah. He appeared to be struggling while lifting her over logs of fallen trees in the jungle. You may have seen the picture. I cut out the article for later reading, not yet able to read it or get the picture out of my mind.

Although the United Nations estimates that there are at least 103 million displaced around the world, Sara did not remain one. After being separated from Mr. Garcia, Sarah was eventually reunited with her mom.

Surely Mr. Garcia was the blessing of an angel on the route. We'd like to believe that mother and daughter and Mr. Garcia arrived at their destination and that they are leading happier lives.

This is not the case. Two days after they were reunited, the Department of Homeland Security announced they would not be allowed to enter the United States. They would be sent to Mexico. More than 4,000 migrants a day continue to emerge.

In New York City, after flooding, the Mayor is shutting down tents on Randalls Island that were used to house migrants shipped here from Texas. They will be transported to a 600-room hotel in midtown Manhattan. He described the influx of asylum seekers as a humanitarian crisis. Already the city is caring for more than 17,500 asylum seekers.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I thought about all the angels in my life. When things were at their worst for me, angels came along–at more than casual inconveniences to themselves. It seems to me that there is enormous need for angels for so many migrants as our country continues to resist or avoid solving the problem.

We benefit from so many angels and have so many reasons to be very grateful this Thanksgiving. Hopefully the number of angels will grow with the numbers who need them.
**2023 All-Congregation Retreat**

Camp Zeke in Lakewood, PA!

Memorial Day Weekend 2023 will be a weekend of peace, love, and fun for all ages at a truly amazing new location—Camp Zeke!

The weekend is a great opportunity for fellowship while sharing sumptuous farm-to-table meals. NEW: Camp Zeke provides fully-staffed programs, both indoors and outdoors for all ages.

Important: Please complete a one-minute survey by November 30, 2022 so that an appropriate number of rooms may be secured! UUCSR must reserve a block now.

**Click to take the Interest Poll NOW**

- Beautiful heated and air-conditioned private rooms
- Spectacular spring-fed, 60-acre, glacial lake for canoeing, kayaking, tubing, and swimming
- Heated pool and jacuzzi
- Large theater and film-screening room
- Full weight room and martial arts studio
- Mirrored yoga and dance studio
- Art rooms
- Teaching kitchens
- Miles of hiking trails
- Tennis and basketball courts, two baseball diamonds, pickle ball, zip line, and climbing trees
- And so much more, including counselors for children’s programs and lake and pool lifeguards!

Costs are reasonable and consistent with previous retreat locations. There will be a meaningful Worship Service for all, plus separate parent and family programs. UUCSR’s annual Talent Show for all ages will be held in a large theater, and Shelter Rock’s favorite Club Night and Intergenerational Dance will continue, as well.

To learn more about dining, accommodations, location, and programming for all ages, visit [HERE](#). If you have questions or comments, please contact Staff Liaison Sharyn Esposito at [sesposito@uucsr.org](mailto:sesposito@uucsr.org).

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**SPONSORED BY THE MEMBER EVENTS COMMITTEE**

**NOT JUST BRIDGE**

Thursdays • Veatch House Ballroom
1:00 PM until 4:00 PM or until “Game Over”

UUCSR bridge players welcome game players of all kinds to join them on Thursday afternoons. Canasta, Mah Jong, Scrabble, etc. are all welcome. Please bring a full complement of players for any game other than bridge. All are welcome.

NEW!

Canasta lessons are offered by Donna Cattano
Bridge lessons for beginners and occasionally for advanced players are offered by Paul Drezner

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If there are any questions, please contact Carla at Stargatecd@aol.com.
**Event Announcements**  
ALL PROGRAMS ARE ONLINE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE. Please see UUCSR.org/calendar for additional details. See LIACUU.org for other area congregations.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<td>Wednesday, November 23, 22</td>
<td>9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 PM, Ukulele Group Practice</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 24, 2022</td>
<td>12:00 PM, Thanksgiving Celebration, Social Hall</td>
<td>Building CLOSED - Thanksgiving Day Holiday, except as follows:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 25, 2022</td>
<td>12:00 PM, Great Books - Great Conversations 3</td>
<td>Building CLOSED - Thanksgiving Friday Holiday</td>
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<td>6:30 PM, Friday Nights with the LGBTQ+ Group Gatherings Online</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, November 26, 2022</td>
<td>7:30 PM, Women's Group Online Film Discussion - The Dressmaker</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, November 27, 2022</td>
<td>12:30 PM, RE Holiday Decorations Crafting</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>1:00 PM, Love &amp; Stitches, RE Room 15</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, November 28, 2022</td>
<td>11:00 AM, Crafting for Sanity and Community Online Get-Together</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 29, 2022</td>
<td>10:00 AM, Building a Better Brain for a Better Life</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>11:00 AM, Veatch Board of Governors December Policy Meeting, Social Hall and Online</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 30, 2022</td>
<td>12:00 PM, Great Books - Great Conversations 3</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 1, 2022</td>
<td>6:30 PM, Friday Nights with the LGBTQ+ Group Gatherings Online</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>7:00 PM, An Evening of Song with Willow, Main Lobby Lawn, SH, and Online</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, December 2, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>Saturday, December 3, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>Sunday, December 4, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-3:00 PM, Building Hours</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>9:00 AM, Bagel Breakfast &amp; Coffee Hour, Social Hall</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>9:00 AM, Shelter Rock Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, Choir Rehearsal Room</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>9:00 AM, Women's Group Board Meeting, Veatch Conference Room and Online</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>10:00 AM, Choir Rehearsal, Worship Room</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>10:00 AM, Young People's Choir Rehearsal, Chapel</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>10:45 AM, Sunday Morning Experience</td>
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<td>11:00 AM, Religious Education (RE) Classes, RE Wing</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>11:00 AM, Worship Service What Wondrous Love led by Dr. Natalie Fenimore, Worship Room</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>11:05 AM, Children's Worship for All Ages: Peace In, Peace Out, Chapel</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>12:00 PM, Sunday Cafe, Social Hall</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:30 PM, RE Holiday Decorations Crafting Party, Social Hall</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>1:00 PM, Invitational Walk and Land Management Plan Update, Main Lobby and Lawn</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>1:00 PM, Love &amp; Stitches, RE Room 15</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>1:00 PM, RE Exhibit - Reception, Art Gallery</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>5:00 PM, Soulful Salutations - Restorative Yoga &amp; Yoga Nidra enhanced by Live Music</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>Monday, December 5, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>9:00 AM, Medical Qigong for Senior Health</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>Wednesday, December 7, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>Thursday, December 8, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>Friday, December 9, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>Saturday, December 10, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>10:00 AM, Caring Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>10:00 AM, Cookie Baking with New Hour and WORC, Main Kitchen, Social Hall</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>11:00 AM, Messiah Sing Rehearsal, Worship Room</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>6:00 PM, Dramatic Readings</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>Sunday, December 11, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-3:00 PM, Building Hours</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>9:00 AM, Bagel Breakfast &amp; Coffee Hour, Social Hall</td>
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<td>9:00 AM, Shelter Rock Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, Choir Rehearsal Room</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>9:30 AM, New Member Book Signing Ceremony, Veatch House</td>
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<td>10:00 AM, Choir Rehearsal, Worship Room</td>
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<td>10:00 AM, Young People's Choir Rehearsal, Chapel</td>
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<td>10:45 AM, Sunday Morning Experience</td>
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<td>11:00 AM, Religious Education (RE) Classes, RE Wing</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>11:00 AM, Sunday Service Star of Wonder led by Rev. Jaye Brooks, Worship Room</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>11:05 AM, Children's Worship for All Ages: Peace In, Peace Out, Chapel</td>
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<td>12:00 PM, Sunday Cafe, Social Hall</td>
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<td>12:00 PM, Write 4 Rights, Social Hall</td>
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<td>1:00 PM, Love &amp; Stitches, RE Room 15</td>
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<td>2:00 PM, Messiah Sing, Worship Room</td>
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<td>Monday, December 12, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>9:00 AM, Medical Qigong for Senior Health</td>
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<td>Tuesday, December 13, 2022</td>
<td>7:30 PM, Denominational Affairs Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>Wednesday, December 14, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>9:00 AM, CSA - Community Supported Agriculture Program, LL Lobby</td>
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<td>3:00 PM, Art Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>7:00 PM, Board of Trustees Meeting, Veatch Conference Room and Online</td>
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<td>7:00 PM, Tech 'n Talk Program - The James Webb Space Telescope</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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<td>Wednesday, December 15, 2022</td>
<td>9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours</td>
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<td>10:00 AM, Building a Better Brain for a Better Life</td>
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<td>11:00 AM, Crafting for Sanity and Community Online Get-Together</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:00 PM, Wednesday Conversations</td>
<td>Building Hours</td>
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</table>
**Event Announcements**

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

6:00 PM, Ukulele Group Practice
7:00 PM, Hanukkah and Christmas Bedtime Stories

**Thursday, December 15, 2022**
9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours
1:00 PM, Not Just Bridge, Art Gallery, Social Hall
7:00 PM, Board of Trustees Meeting, Veatch Conference Room and Online
7:30 PM, Choir Rehearsal, Social Hall

**Friday, December 16, 2022**
9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours
12:00 PM, Great Books - Great Conversations 3
3:30 PM, WG Online Book Series Discussion
6:30 PM, Friday Nights with the LGBTQ+ Group Gatherings Online
7:30 PM, Women's Group Online Film Discussion - All Quiet on the Western Front

**Saturday, December 17, 2022**
9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours
6:30 PM, Men's Group Holiday Sing-Along & Dessert Tasting Party, Art Gallery

**Sunday, December 18, 2022**
9:00 AM, Bagel Breakfast & Coffee Hour, Social Hall
9:00 AM, Shelter Rock Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, Choir Rehearsal Room
10:00 AM, Choir Rehearsal, Worship Room
10:00 AM, Young People's Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
10:45 AM, Sunday Morning Experience
11:00 AM, Worship Service Family Holiday Service led by Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore, Worship Room
12:00 PM, Sunday Cafe, Social Hall
12:45 PM, Men's Group Multipurpose Committee Meeting, Veatch Conference Room and Online
5:00 PM, Soulful Salutations - Restorative Yoga & Yoga Nidra enhanced by Live Music

**Monday, December 19, 2022**
9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours
9:00 AM, Medical Qigong for Senior Health
6:15 PM, Membership Meeting
7:00 PM, Care for the Caregiver
7:00 PM, SI Racial Justice Online Sub-Committee Meeting

**Tuesday, December 20, 2022**
9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours
9:00 AM, CSA - Community Supported Agriculture Program, LL Lobby
12:00 PM, Women Talk Daytime Meeting - Veatch Conference Room and Online
3:00 PM, Online NAMI Criminal Justice Meeting
7:00 PM, Living With Cancer

**Wednesday, December 21, 2022**
9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours
11:00 AM, Crafting for Sanity and Community Online Get-Together
2:00 PM, Wednesday Conversations

3:30 PM, Winter Solstice Worship Service, outside if weather permits and online, led by Rev. David Carl Olson with Erol Delos Santos and members of the Green Sanctuary Committee. Willow will participate.
6:30 PM, Social Justice Virtual Committee Mtg
6:30 PM, UU Kids Connect: Game Time!
7:00 PM, Green Sanctuary Online Committee Meeting

**Thursday, December 22, 2022**
9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours
9:00 AM, Thursday INN Cooking (By Registration Only), Main Kitchen
1:00 PM, Not Just Bridge Games and Lessons, Veatch Ballroom
7:30 PM, Choir Rehearsal, Social Hall

**Friday, December 23, 2022**
Building Closed-Christmas Eve Holiday (observed for staff)
12:00 PM, Great Books - Great Conversations 3
6:30 PM, Friday Nights with the LGBTQ+ Group Gatherings Online
6:30 PM, Together to End Solitary Confinement Online Program
7:30 PM, Women's Group Online Film Discussion - Catherine Called Birdy

**Saturday, December 24, 2022**
9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours
3:00 PM Family Service with the Young People's Choir joining with Adult Choir and Jazz Ensemble presenting the music of A Charlie Brown Christmas and Candlelighting
7:00 PM, Christmas Eve Worship Service with music, readings, and candlelighting

**Sunday, December 25, 2022**
10:00 AM-1:00 PM, Building Hours
10:45 AM, Sunday Morning Experience
11:00 AM, Worship Service Christmas Stories led by Rev. Jaye Brooks, Art Gallery
CANCELLED: 12:00 PM, Sunday Cafe, Social Hall

**Monday, December 26, 2022**
Building Closed-Christmas Day Holiday (observed for staff)
9:00 AM, Medical Qigong for Senior Health

**Tuesday, December 27, 2022**
9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours

**Wednesday, December 28, 2022**
9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Building Hours
11:00 AM, Crafting for Sanity and Community Online Get-Together
2:00 PM, Wednesday Conversations
6:00 PM, Bookstore Meeting

**Thursday, December 29, 2022**
9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours
1:00 PM, Not Just Bridge, Veatch Ballroom
6:00 PM, Bookstore Meeting

**Friday, December 30, 2022**
Building Closed-Christmas Day Holiday (observed for staff)
12:00 PM, Great Books - Great Conversations 3
6:30 PM, Friday Nights with the LGBTQ+ Group Gatherings Online

**Saturday, December 31, 2022**
9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Building Hours
7:30 PM, New Year's Eve Party, Main Building

**Sunday, January 1, 2023**
9:00 AM-3:00 PM, Building Hours
9:00 AM, Bagel Breakfast & Coffee Hour, Social Hall
10:45 AM, Sunday Morning Experience
11:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service, led by Rev. Oscar Sinclair
CANCELLED: 12:00 PM, Sunday Cafe, Social Hall

**Monday, January 2, 2023**
Building Closed-Christmas Day Holiday (observed for staff)

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**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. **Quest** Mission is to connect readers to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, to Unitarian Universalism, and to each other. **Quest** is produced by staff members Jennifer Sappell and Linda McCarthy, with the invaluable assistance of volunteers: Claire Z. Bock, and Jessica K. Vega.

**Submissions:** communications@uucsr.org

**Quest Guidelines:** http://j.mp/quest-gl

**Quest** may include views or opinions that do not necessarily reflect official policy, views of the respective boards or committees, or editorial staff.
A Thanksgiving Blessing
by Naomi King

Let us join hands and hearts in gratitude on this wondrous day, where we have the abundance of our lives before us.

We remember, on this day of bounty, all those who do not have enough, who are afraid, who are lonely, and who suffer.

We wish for the abundance of this world to be shared, for fear to become love, for the lonely to feel welcomed, and for the suffering to know rest and joy.

For the labor, the love, the care that gave us the delights of this and every day, we say “thanks!”

For the nourishment of our spirit, the challenges that strengthen us, and the friends we have on the journey, we sing “thanks!”

For all that is our lives, for these good gifts, we whisper, “thanks!”

Overflowing with gratitude, let us shout, “thanks!” Amen.