



The Quest

January 10, 2017

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION AT SHELTER ROCK

We aspire to be a loving religious community where we can grow spiritually and build a more just and joyful world.



-SHELTER ROCK VISION STATEMENT

WORSHIP SERVICES

Friday, January 13, 2017
Dinner - 6:30 p.m., Worship - 7:30 p.m.,
Free Coffee House
Soulful Sundown
The Rev. Jennifer L. Brower

Dinner at 6:30, Service at 7:30, Coffee House at 8:30 featuring special guest performer Mike DelGuidice. Come nurture your spirit with dinner, lively worship, and an all-ages coffee house.

It's been three years since Mike DelGuidice, the frontman for Billy Joel tribute band Big Shot, became a member of the piano man's band. A job that started out as a stand-in for his idol at rehearsals in 2013 led to DelGuidice's permanent position as acoustic guitarist and backing vocalist in Billy Joel's touring band.

Sunday, January 15, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.
"The Radical King"
The Rev. Ned Wight and
Oscar Sinclair, Ministerial Intern

Over the years since his assassination, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. has been honored and revered as a man of vision and inspiration. Dr. King's critique of the roots of injustice, inequity and economic exploitation of people of color and poor people is more radical than often remembered. How is it possible, Dr. King asked, that the richest, most powerful country in the world could not and did not live up to the promises it enshrines in the story it tells of itself? In *The Radical King*, editor Cornel West seeks to restore Dr. King's reputation as a bold social critic drawing deeply from his faith. This Sunday, Ned and Oscar will explore the radical vision of Dr. King, and what his legacy holds for us 49 years after his death.

TOUCHSTONES

The Rev. Jennifer L. Brower

Swimming is a deeply meaningful part of my spiritual life. When I don't swim, I soon begin to feel out of sorts and disconnected from my center. As I kick, catch, and pull through the water, I can feel myself working through and releasing the tensions I am carrying. Friends have said that my first few laps look like I am fighting my way down the lane. (Now that's a lovely image...) Soon, though, with all of the sounds around me muted by the water, I begin to find focus and fluidity. I can't be somewhere else in my head and swim with intention. Swimming makes me conscious of and connects me to my breath – the Breath of Life – and allows me time to commune with the Holy within and beyond. After the first few hundred meters of fighting the water, I settle into prayer. I always begin the same way: I attend to the feel of the water from the tips of my fingers to the tips of my toes. I give thanks for the parts of my body that all work together and allow me this experience. Then I turn to my worries and needs; concerns for the world, for family and friends, and I pray for you. I pray for UUCSR. The swimming pool is sacred space for me.

A few days ago, midway through my swim, as I was coming in toward the wall, I caught the sight of a body on the bottom of the pool in the lane next to me. I was so startled that I pretty much shot straight up out of the water! Quicker than I could cognitively process what I'd seen, I felt a powerful sensation that said, "Wait! That just does not belong here!" Though it was a lifeguard rescue dummy and not a drowning human, the sight was jarring. I switched lanes, but I couldn't get back into the flow. My spiritual practice was disrupted. The swim was good exercise but it wasn't close to what it could have been for my spirit.

When we gather for worship on Sunday or Friday or any day, those of us who craft and lead worship – your ministers, Music Director, musicians, choir members - hope to have created an experience that will allow you the kind of release, refocus, grounding and spiritual refreshment that I find in the pool. We want to eliminate distractions to give you a much-needed sacred space.

On Sunday, as I helped our facilities staff prepare the Worship Room for an afternoon memorial service, I again felt the "Wait! That does not belong here," sensation as I reached under the pews to clean up coffee cups – some empty, others not – that had been left behind after worship.

Just as I cannot fully experience the very real and essential benefits my swimming practice offers while looking down at a lifeguard rescue dummy lying on the floor of the pool, worship cannot be fully experienced – worship cannot be worshipful and we cannot receive the full benefits of it - if we are engaged in other tasks, like having breakfast. I wish for much, much more for your spiritual practice.

If you must have coffee or eat during the service, please do so in the Art Gallery. Food and beverages – other than water – should not be brought into the sanctuary.

Yours in Faith, Rev. Brower

VEATCH VIEWS

Joan Minieri



Our Faith in Justice

Since the November election, Veatch has been responding to the very real threats under which social justice organizations now operate. In conversations with some of you, I have shared our sense of urgency along with the stories of despair that we have been hearing, and you have encouraged me to share these more widely.

First, I truly believe that the work this congregation has supported for decades--on the ground in workplaces, cities, states and across the country -- has been essential to the development of powerful organizations and highly skilled leaders. This congregation has stood fast with these organizing, advocacy and political education organizations. In some cases, you've played a fundamental role in their very existence. I draw strength from my deep faith that we have the hearts and minds of the country if not, at the moment, the White House.

At the same time, our grantees are not painting a rosy picture. I want to honor their words, here and in the days and months going forward, by being truthful with you about the stark and uncertain landscape in which they are operating. The threats that Veatch grantees are experiencing right now are very real.

Threats to Immigrant Communities

Most immediately, many immigrants fear that they will be deported or forced onto a registry. The administration has pledged to take these actions, and there is evidence in cabinet and agency choices that they aim to follow through. It was devastating for us to hear of several youth leaders being distraught to the point of taking their own lives.

Through our Weathering the Storms project, we are working hard to help all of the organizations in our portfolio to protect their contact lists, personal data, communications and financial systems. We are collaborating with our funder colleagues to help groups access rapid response funding so they can organize resistance efforts. The field is ramping up. We are strategizing -- it feels surreal to even think this way -- over how to protect vulnerable Americans from our political leaders. The tenor in the field is that we must be bold in our efforts to protect democracy.

Linking Arms

I keep in my mind a strong image--that we are linking arms with others who share our UU values and our commitment to being on the side of love and justice. Our staff have these relationships and these willing arms to hold, and we are activating them.

I hope you take a moment to read about the work of Veatch grantees in the Annual Report 2016 that recently arrived at the homes of congregants, and is available in the lobby. Our theme is:

On Solid Ground: Our Faith in Justice. Now, perhaps more than ever in our political history, there can be no "other." Whether that literal ground is in New Orleans, Boston, Oakland, Louisiana or down the street from Shelter Rock, our root systems are all connected. If something gets pulled from the ground, we all feel it.

Thank you, and as always, please do contact me if you have questions about our work.

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.

LARGE GRANTS

Large Grants Reminder:

Come see your dots at work! Join us at the congregational meeting on January 22 when you will select categories for the Large Grants Program and discuss a Crisis Grant.

The Large Grants Program of UUCSR provides support for efforts within the religious and spiritual mission of the congregation where their purposes are best served by outside agencies acting under the Large Grants Program and the Congregation.

Veatch Sunday



Featured grantee speaker
Amy Goodman, Democracy Now!
delivered the sermon titled

**"A Victory for Standing
Rock...for Now"**

Watch on uucsr.org or YouTube.

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC

We Need Your Talent for MUSIC AMONG US!
Do you sing, dance, mime or tell (good) jokes? We need you on stage for MUSIC AMONG US 2017!

You are invited to showcase/share your talent Sunday, January 29th, starting at 1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Our own UUCSR Jazz Ensemble will kick off the show. Young people 18 and younger will be given top priority, but performers of all ages are encouraged to participate. All participants must register in advance to perform. Please register by contacting Music Liaison Lea Titza at ltitza@uucsr.org. Questions? Contact Karin Lyngstad Hughes at karindc@optonline.net, or Music Director Stephen Michael Smith at ssmith@uucsr.org.

Join the choir for Music Sunday 2017 and sing selections from BACH'S monumental B MINOR MASS.

Often cited as Bach's greatest musical work and considered to be one of the most significant musical compositions of all time, J. S. Bach's Mass in B Minor is a masterpiece of human achievement and artistic vision. Singers who would like to join the UUCSR Choir to learn and perform this monumental work of art are invited to attend Thursday evening rehearsals, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., beginning January 12. Musical scores will be provided. Join us for a journey which has will enrich your life. The performance with full orchestra will take place on Sunday, April, 6 as part of the morning worship service.

CARING COMMITTEE – OUR MISSION

Dear fellow congregants,

My wishes to all for good health in the New Year! In alliance with the values we cherish, our caring ministry strives to provide care for its members in a dependable, inclusive and discrete manner. No member should be alone. To that end, we are available to visit the ill at home or in the hospital, support those going through a life crisis, maintain contact with those unable to attend church, support friends and family involved in caregiving, and comfort the bereaved. I have seen time and time again how, as a community, we have demonstrated support for one another in this capacity during times of need. It is my hope that if you are facing difficult circumstances, you will contact Reverend Jennifer Brower, our Pastoral Minister at 516.472.2917 to ensure that your needs are most effectively addressed and we will lend a hand, as needed.

Rhonda Kessler, Chair of Caring Committee

HOLIDAY GIVING

Between November 1 and December 25, members of UUCSR made the following donations of time, talent, and treasure to assist children and families in need, to help those who are hungry and homeless, and to benefit those who struggle with the effects of illness.

- Donations for Thanksgiving Turkeys and Christmas Roaster Chickens for Guests of the North Shore INN Soup Kitchen and the Families Served by the **AIDS Center of Queens County (ACQC)** in the amount of \$5,581.75
- 500 pounds of non-perishable food items to Families Served by the **AIDS Center of Queens County (ACQC)**
- Proceeds from the Peter Yarrow Concert ticket sales totaling \$1,560.00 and \$205.00 from book and CD sales at the concert to the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**
- Soulful Sundown Collection for an **Ark of Animals** for a Family Served by the **Heifer Foundation** in the amount of \$5,000
- The Grade 7 and Coming of Age (COA) youth raised \$450 to shop for Christmas presents for underserved teens via **Share the Light**
- Gifts for 103 **mitten tree** recipients
- 28 gifts to contribute to **Rev. Benjamin's toy drive** for underserved children in Hempstead
- Adults and youth distributed 200 lunch bags, a 5 gallon pot of soup and 150 toiletry kits to people who are **homeless in Manhattan through Midnight Run**
- Donations to UU Service Committee, **Guest at Your Table** effort totaling \$1689.64
- The Christmas Eve plate collection totaling \$2,906.00 for the efforts of **Doctors Without Borders** to assist refugees
- A donation from the Women's Group Holiday Sale totaling \$1,000 to the **Hempstead Boys & Girls Club**
- Total monetary donations: \$18,392.39

Total effort, gifts, and love: priceless!



SAVE THE DATE:
Saturday, May 13, 2017
75th Anniversary Gala

Transportation Assistance

UUCSR offers transportation assistance to Sunday Worship and Soulful Sundown services for members who are unable to travel due to physical or financial limitations. Contact Kimberly Rossiter, assistant to the ministers, at krossiter@uucsr.org or 516.472.2941 for an application.

THE REV. NATALIE M. FENIMORE

Lifespan Religious Education



Welcome to the New Year at Shelter Rock! 2017 has begun and we are half way through our congregational year. We have much to look forward to:

Music Among Us, Senior Seminar Worship Service, 6th Grade Service Project, Coming of Age, Bridging, Young People's Choir, Silver Bay Retreat, and so much more.

Our Lifespan Religious Education program includes a great variety of Adult Programs as well – see the offerings in the Winter/Spring Adult Programs Booklet available in the congregation's lobby and on the website. It is wonderful to come together as a community in worship and fellowship – I hope to see you all throughout the year.

On Sunday, January 29, our Third Graders (Feasts and Festivals Class) will parade through the UUCSR hallways for their annual Dragon Parade for Chinese New Year.

Neighboring Faiths

Chinese New year – January 28 Also called “Lunar New Year” or “Spring Festival,” this holiday marks a fifteen-day festival for Chinese people of all religions.

It is a celebration of thanksgiving and remembrance of ancestors. This popular celebration involves travelling to visit family, new clothes, house cleaning, exchange of gifts, special foods, parades, and fireworks – all to usher in a New Year of good fortune and prosperity.

Traditionally a religious ceremony honors Heaven and Earth. In the Chinese Zodiac, 2017 is the Year of the Rooster.

The Lunar New Year is also a traditional religious and cultural celebration in other countries in Asia: Vietnamese New Year is called “Tet”, Japanese New year is “Shogatsu”, Korean New Year “Hangul”. Each nation has its own specific traditional celebration with unique foods and activities.

Have you eaten Moon Cakes? Gone to see a Chinese New Year's Parade? Did you know that the annual travel for the holiday is the world's largest human migration?



DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2017 General Assembly News

Application forms are now available in the lobby for the 2017 GA in New Orleans

CONGREGATIONAL AFFAIRS

Congregational Meeting Reminder:

As a reminder, there is a congregational meeting on Sunday January 22, 2017.

The congregational packet will be mailed out by January 12, 2017. In addition, the Board of Trustees has scheduled an additional congregational meeting on Sunday February 12, 2017 that will take place prior to the Board of Trustees sponsored Holiday Party for the congregation. This is a new meeting not previously on the congregational calendar.

The Board will be finalizing the meeting's agenda at its January 17, 2017 Board meeting.

DEATH CAFÉ

The goals of the International Death Café are to increase an awareness of death to help people make the most of their finite lives. It is a safe, nurturing, accessible, and non-ideological group...it is not for the support of recent grief, but a place where people can explore their questions and ideas. To see more about the movement, you can go to deathcafe.com. Coffee and cake will be served to sweeten the conversation.

Death Cafe will be meeting Sunday, January 29, at 1:00 p.m. in the Art Gallery. Betty Gold and Diana Wolfson will be coordinators. Please reserve your spot by calling or emailing Kimberly Rossiter at 516.472.2941 or krossiter@uucsr.org

MEMBERSHIP

Ben Bortin, Membership Coordinator

Whenever I'm grocery shopping, a "spiritual discipline" I've developed over recent times is to buy at least one non-perishable food item for the INN (the Inter-faith Nutrition Network). Hunger on Long Island and in New York City is real. On Long Island, 64,900 people receive emergency food assistance per week, 39% of them children. In New York City, one in four children faces hunger.



And there's more simple arithmetic — if each of us brought one food item a week to the congregation on Sunday, (put it in the red shopping carts in the lobby) we'd have 150-250 donations each week. Could we make that a collective New Year's Resolution? So simple, and yet so vital a way to put our membership values to work. Appreciation to Claire DeRoche for listing the foods most needed, and campaigning for this effort, and to John Tilton for his commitment.

Second, there will be two dioramas introducing recent members. Actually, they're not all that recent --- members who joined us upwards of a year ago. Apologies for the delay, but we're delighted they're with us. My thanks to staff member, Linda McCarthy for the beautiful work. Other dioramas of newer members to follow!

Finally, I want to share a new approach to hospitality here – presented by recent member Chris Hilke, and approved by the Membership Committee. Our plan is to have a much more conspicuous and celebrative Newcomers Table at the Café, perhaps marked by a balloon and special table cloth, and closer to the entrance door. Even more importantly, we hope for one member each week, by pre-arrangement, to be at that table, to host and make welcome newcomers to the Café and the congregation. Might you consider that possibility once during a two to three month span of Sundays?

A heart-felt, happy and healthy New Year to you all! Ben Bortin

Expeditions

The UUCSR expedition to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, with a focus on the visiting Max Beckmann exhibit, has been postponed to Friday, January 13, due to weather conditions. Unfortunately, there is no more room on the UUCSR van. Meet in the downstairs cafeteria between noon and 1:00 p.m... And the Max Beckmann exhibit at 1:15 p.m.

Announcement:

Copies of Robert Sunley's history of the congregation, The Early Plandome Years 1955-76, are very scant! Do any of you have copies you might donate to UUCSR?

Lunch Bunch

Diwan (Indian Cuisine), 37 Shore Rd, Port Washington, NY 11050 516.439.4200. Thursday, January 19, 1:00 p.m. \$23 All inclusive. All Members and Friends of UUCSR welcome!

SOCIAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR

Claire Deroche

Defying Hate with 30 Days of Love

This year, Unitarian Universalists across the country will be observing the time between the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, January 16 and Valentine's Day, February 14 as a time to be even more intentional in our efforts to show love and create the Beloved Community. The UUCSR CoUUrage to Defy Hate Task Force is using this time to remind us that we are called to defy hate wherever we encounter it by spreading love. According to Caitlin Breedlove, Campaign Director and Nora Rasman, Campaign Coordinator, Standing on the Side of Love, "Love is not a feeling but an action, and love will propel us towards building community, protecting those marginalized, and creating alternatives." <http://tinyurl.com/jpm73m5>



Here are some ways you might defy hate by taking loving action:

- Find common ground with someone you usually disagree with and have a conversation
- Reconnect with an old friend
- Go to www.change.org and sign a petition for a cause you care about
- Have a judgment-free day with everyone you meet
- Learn about a culture or religion different from yours
- Say "I love you" to someone
- Donate to an organization assisting refugees
- Greet a stranger
- Thank someone who helps you in a store or other place of business
- Do a secret act of kindness
- Seek out an organization dedicated to defying hate and join it
- Learn how to be an "upstander" when you see acts of bullying, bias, and prejudice at <http://tinyurl.com/h3dwary>
- Send an email to Representative Peter King at <http://www.peteking.house.gov> urging him to work for compassionate immigration reform
- Donate to an organization working for human rights
- Learn about the global refugee crisis at <http://www.unhcr.org/>
- Read about the French volunteer who is defying hate and risking prison to help refugees <http://tinyurl.com/z5yo9lp>
- Join Amnesty International and advocate for political prisoners
- Introduce yourself to a new member of the congregation
- Light a candle to express the hope you have for the world

On Sunday, January 15, the members of the CoUUrage to Defy Hate Task Force will be in the lobby after worship to distribute calendars for the 30 Days of Love. You'll find suggestions for acts of love for each of the 30 days. Task Force Members hope you'll use this calendar as one more way to defy hate and build the Beloved Community.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's March on Washington DC, Saturday, January 21, 2017: There are 13 seats left on the bus leaving from UUCSR. To sign up for a seat go to rallybus.net; Click: Trending now: Women's March on Washington; Select "New York" from scroll down menu for state; Select "North Hills" from scroll down menu for city. Reserve your ticket(s) for \$150.00 ea. Note: fee goes up as time goes by. For further information about the march, go to: <https://www.womensmarch.com/> (Information is current as of time of writing.)

Women's March on New York City, Saturday, January 21, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, 833 1st Avenue, NYC. If you are passionate about equal rights for every American, you are most welcome to participate in this sister Women's March in New York City. To receive information about the march, go to this link to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/womens-march-on-nyc-tickets-294.640.21682?aff=es2> If you wish to receive information about train travel and a meeting place in NYC for Unitarian Universalists, please send your name and cell phone number to Social Justice Coordinator Claire Deroche at cderoche@uucsr.org or 516.472.2977. You will be contacted the week of January 15 with further information.

Social Justice Committee Meeting, Wednesday, January 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Art Gallery. This month's agenda will include further work on our collaboration with the UUCSR Socially Responsible Investing Subcommittee. New members are always welcome.

30 Days of Love: From Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday to Valentine's Day Unitarian Universalists across the country are invited to observe 30 Days of Love. This year the CoUUrage to Defy Hate Task Force will provide a calendar with suggested actions to defy hate and promote love for each of the 30 Days! Members of the Task Force will distribute the calendars in the main lobby after worship on Sunday, January 15. Calendars will also be distributed to our children in the religious education program.

Conference Call "Ending Prolonged Solitary Confinement": Tuesday, January 17 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Call in number: 1-855.392.2520. When prompted, enter code 5471845#. Our special guest for this call will be Jared Chausow, Advocacy Specialist with Brooklyn Defenders Services and an active member of CAIC. He will share with us the latest developments with the HALT Solitary Confinement Act. If you intend to participate, please email cderoche@uucsr.org to receive the agenda prior to the call. Please note the new time.

Climate Justice Taskforce Book Discussion Series, Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Art Gallery: The second discussion of the book, *Memory of Water* by Emmi Itäranta, will take place on Tuesday, January 17. Mary Tomaselli, adult educator from Queens College, will lead the discussion. Flyers with information about the series are available in the lobby and books may be purchased by contacting Sharyn Esposito at 516.472.2960 or sesposito@uucsr.org.

Climate Justice Task Force Meeting, Wednesday, January 18 at

7:00 p.m. in the Art Gallery. Members of this task force are currently planning events for 2017 to advance a response to climate change. New members are always welcome.

Cooking for Interfaith Nutrition Network (INN) Guests, Saturday, January 21, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the Main Kitchen. Contact John Ryan at 516.487.5571 for information.

SJ Mental Health Subcommittee Meeting, Sunday, January 22, 9:00 am – 10:30 am, Veatch House Conference Room: The mission of this group is to combat the stigma of mental illness. New members welcome.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHARING

Non-perishable food donations: Our non-perishable food collection will benefit the food pantry Long Island Council of Churches in Freeport. Suggested items: boxes of cold cereal; canned meats and fish with pop tops: tuna, chicken, salmon, sardines; peanut butter; and soups with pop tops. (Plastic jars, only, please!) Thank you!

UUCSR Used Clothing Bin and Clothing Closet: Please place items for children and adults (in well-secured bags) in the bin designated "Donations of Gently Used Clothing and Shoes," located in the entryway to the coatroom. Items hanging in the back corner of the coat room are available to all; you are welcome to take anything you need. The bulk of the clothing will continue to benefit the United Veterans Beacon House. If you have any questions about donations or how to donate other items, please contact Social Justice Coordinator Claire Deroche at 516.472.2977 or cderoche@uucsr.org. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

The Global Refugee Crisis: How We Can Make a Difference, Sunday, February 5 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Worship Room and Art Gallery. The CoUUrage to Defy Hate Task Force has planned this program to provide information on the global refugee crisis and how we as a congregation might sponsor a refugee family. We will view the video, "The Global Refugee Crisis" by Share America. Our guest speaker will be Carmen Maquilon, Director of Catholic Charities Immigrant Services/Refugee Resettlement, Diocese of Rockville Center since 2004. She will guide us through the refugee resettlement process, share a film on the US Immigration vetting process for refugees, explain the responsibilities of a sponsoring organization, and answer our questions. A reception in the Art Gallery will follow.

MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MYTH: You can't recover from mental illness

Recovery often depends on the type of mental illness, how old you are when diagnosed and other health conditions. The good news is that recovery rates are generally high: up to 50% for schizophrenia, 70% for panic disorder and 80% for bipolar disorder.

GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

2017: A Healthier Infrastructure

This is a New Year, 2017, one filled with hope and optimism in spite of the many negatives of last year. This is especially true for environmentalists and social activists. These people have supported good causes whenever injustices have appeared. What have we learned? Well, for starters, we have seen indigenous people, the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, fight against a pipeline. The Dakota Access Pipeline supported by special interests will disturb their water, tribal burial grounds, and land. Their opponents, using the police, unfortunately, have resorted to violence to prevent their protest: they have used dogs and mace, and have strip searched protesters to get them to back down. But people of good will everywhere have joined in supporting them by giving money, joining the protesters in Dakota, and writing to government officials to stop it.

The fossil fuel industry seems like a black mark that we cannot easily erase. Although global warming has increased with tons of carbon dioxide along with its partner methane causing climatic events globally, we still must fight the climate deniers. New appointees to the Environmental Protection Agency are proponents of the fossil fuel industry, naysayers who will promote more deregulation. These are the business people who are invested in the energy supplies of the past, fearful of the harsh reality that climate change brings and any of their monetary losses in the stock market. They keep spreading lies and avoid what is happening to our climate because of fossil fuels.

The increasingly warming oceans, the rapidly melting icebergs and the flooding of coastal areas are ignored. The large numbers of earthquakes caused by fracking are also denied. Water and air pollution from bad extraction methods and accidents are also held blameless. Currently, there are thousands of pipelines criss-crossing the United States delivering oil and gas products. They are hazards waiting to happen. Many are leaking methane now and others are on the waiting list. The media ignores the spills that infiltrate our water and land with only scant coverage given. The fact that our children suffer from more asthma and cancer than children in other countries is connected to our fossil fuels' industrial pollution. The cause and effects of global warming on our health remain tamped down by media compliance and lack of in-depth coverage. They usually focus on the disasters when they occur and the aftermath, not the climate-related reasons. So as our respiratory diseases and cancers grow, the pharmaceutical industry makes piles of money, as do many of those investors who govern us and make these decisions.

How can we fight the deniers when they occupy important places in our government and are linked to corporate and special interests? For example, they have successfully been able to keep genetically engineered seeds and food from public scrutiny. Monsanto, the genetically engineered seed company, now Bayer's baby, worked to hide GMO (genetically modified organism) labeling on food, although many states like New York, Vermont and New Hampshire wanted transparent labeling. They sold us the Dark Act. This piece of legislation keeps consumers in the dark, with virtually unreadable GMO food labels.

Therefore, the public remains unaware of how many of the chemicals that are used in our food production are dangerous to our health. The high number of food related allergies we have today is the result of how twisted our agriculture and production system has become. For example, most schools in the United States serve lunches that are generally not nutritious with lots of processed food and false marketing tricks: tomato ketchup has been listed as a vegetable. Healthy fresh food, cooked on premises and served the same day are given to school children in other developed nations, while ours are not. In addition, our government continually cuts our food programs like SNAP and makes it harder and harder to get Food Stamps for those who earn marginal incomes. In the U.S. the small family farm and organic farmer must comply to rules and regulations Big AG (agriculture) doesn't need to. Our substandard food products are put on the shelves of markets costing much less than healthier choices do.

The optimistic side is that in the United States, what we who struggle see are more than 50,000 wind power related jobs created last year. These jobs represent the services, manufacturing, installation and maintenance of wind turbines. They are located in almost every state in the union. In fact, our wind industry grew by over 20% in 2016 with over 500 wind manufacturing facilities producing turbine materials for wind turbines and their components. Solar power, on the other hand, has a much faster growing market. In 2016, the U.S. solar industry is predicted to grow 119%. This forecasts 16 gigawatts of solar energy which will overtake the record of 7.36 watts we have now.

According to the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), there are over 1000 solar companies in the U.S. They are waiting with jobs and training to forge ahead when our government makes this an economic priority over fossil fuel deals. One major problem encountered today is stopping the collusion between the public utilities and state or local governments. They throw extra/special taxes on residents who want to purchase solar panels for their homes. Instead of cutting energy costs, they raise them in states like Nevada, killing residential solar requests and companies.

Having a healthier infrastructure is not easy. First we must convince people everywhere how much better and more efficient wind turbines on land or sea are compared to dirty fossil fuels. Second, we must stop any public utilities that fight against solar initiatives, especially residential ones, instead of promoting renewable cheaper clean energy. This means we still have a long way to go in order to have a positive impact. I believe we all must join the struggle for a clean energy-based economy. We must fight for the renewable industry and fairness. We must try to change the minds of the people in charge who seek to block us. Ultimately, if we are able to build an economic engine that runs on the solar and wind industries, there will be thousands of new jobs everywhere and people in the U.S. will live in a healthier environment.

Elaine Peters for the Green Sanctuary Committee

WOMEN'S GROUP

Maria Ceraulo, Chair, Women's Issues

Advice from Italian Women

It was a personal loss not just for American women, but Italian women as well. In Italy, there were impassioned demonstrations protesting the former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. It seems that a noticeable similarity between the Italian Prime Minister and our own newly elected leadership has been detected. Berlusconi has made disparaging, unprintable statements about women.



Among many other shocking statements, our President elect defended himself against women who have accused him of sexual assault, proclaiming, "She would not have been my first choice".

Francesca Comencini, director of fourteen films, mother of three children, and a political organizer, hopes for another commonality between both men: a downfall catalyzed by women! After her group, *Se Non Ora, Quando* (If not now, when), demonstrated with more than a million people, Berlusconi resigned - nine months later. "We want a country in which it's possible for women to live in dignity!" said Susanna Camusso, the first female leader of Italy's largest labor union. There was actually a "group scream." They used imagery as well as ideology. The Italian actress, Angela Finocchiaro, made a video appealing to Italian men asking them to "tell the world you don't want to live in a bad fifties movie".

As we get ready for our coming Women's March on Washington, there is some advice for us: "Do not make something against him, but communicate the idea that women are the nation". "This is strength". When the Italian women acted, it symbolically was the end of Berlusconi. As they said, we have to walk like winners. One day, it will be true. American women are only just beginning on this path. Let's hope we won't have to wait decades as the Italians did. We will act now. We look forward to an amazing, successful march, and appreciate the solidarity expressed by Italian women.

Join the Women's Group

FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH OF



FEBRUARY 3, 7:30 p.m., ART GALLERY

JOIN us in MUSIC & SONG with FRANK & HEATHER
TO COMMEMORATE FEBRUARY

BRING A POEM TO SHARE!

Enjoy coffee, wine, & chocolates

Contribution: \$5 Members, \$10 Non-Members

RSVP by January 25, contact: Sharyn at sesposito@uucsr.org or call 516.472.2960
Babysitting available - Notify by January 25

Just a reminder of what women couldn't do in 1960

(adapted from *Ms. Magazine*)

1. Keep her job if she was pregnant
2. Report cases of sexual harassment
3. Be acknowledged in the Boston Marathon
4. Get a credit card
5. Refuse to have sex with her husband
6. Get a divorce with some degree of ease
7. Have a legal abortion in most states
8. Serve on a jury in every state (not until 1973)
9. Go on birth control pills (not until 1965)
10. Go to most Ivy League schools (e.g. Harvard, Yale or Princeton)
11. Have any equality in the workplace (until 1977, courts did not recognize inappropriate workplace harassment as an offense)
12. Become lawyers (not until 1971) or astronauts
13. Attend any US military academies (not until 1976)
14. Contest charges misdemeanor charges for living with a boyfriend.
15. Demand paid maternity leave (U.S. did not require employers to do this.)
16. Become a Supreme Court Justice (since they couldn't practice law)

Women's Group Congratulates Our Palma

For the second time, Palma Torrisi, serving as a member of their Board of Directors, was honored by CARACEN, Central American Refugee Center, for her work on behalf of immigrant families. She has helped hundreds of people from all over the world. Those of us who are members of Women's Group appreciate her long,



unwavering commitment to Women's Issues. Freedom and justice for all are the values she brings to her work. We were delighted to share her evening and wish her the very best for her well deserved recognition.

The Women's Group will be holding their

**2017-2018 Women's Group
Budget Planning meeting**

**Saturday, February 25
Veatch Conference Room, 1:00 p.m.**

THANK YOU

I am pleased to report to the Congregation that the concert given by Peter Yarrow held at UUCSR was a huge success. The event drew about 400 people with proceeds above costs, \$1,560 along with a check for \$205 from the profits of the CD and book sales, donated to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in the name of Mary Travers, member of the folk trio Peter, Paul and Mary. All who attended were treated to a special experience beyond the presentation of music. Throughout the concert Peter extolled Unitarian Universalism for our "Standing on the Side of Love" by supporting all of the causes we believe in. He said, "We must be engaged in who we are and what we stand for."



Our member Ruth Weiss envisioned a concert in memory of Mary Travers and I had been working with her on plans to make it a reality for over a year. The Adult Program committee had already voted to be a co-sponsor the event. Here was our big chance to have this concert in connection with the UUCSR 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Now the next step was getting financial support from other committees in case ticket sales fell short. With the words "it will never happen, Sandy" ringing in my ears, I made my plea at various committee meetings who embraced the idea and voted to co-sponsor. I want to thank the following committee members for pledging financial support although it was not necessary to take from their budgets -- Member Events, Membership, Music, Shelter Rock Forum, Social Justice and Women's Group.

Special thanks to the working committee for their ideas and help, in alpha order, Rev. Ben Bortin, Carla Drezner, Chris Hilke, Patti Paris, Jim Smith, Ruth Weiss, the Rev. Ned Wight and assisted by our staff member Sharyn Esposito. Thanks, too, for the input from our other ministers. We also had help selling tickets and ushering day of from Richard Bock, Edwin Frank, Term Trustee, Jeanne Nemetz-RE Coordinator, and Roz Weit.

As for me, the outstanding success of the event more than rewarded me for my time and efforts overseeing the implementation of Ruth's dream.

Sandra H. Frank, Facilitator
Peter Yarrow Concert Working Committee

A special shout-out to Katy Schall for the festive decorations that she and her mother Paula created for the Worship Room during the holidays. We so appreciate her vision and creativity, which created a magical space for our holiday services. (And we also thank her for decorating the chancel for Sunday services every week of the year!)

Thank you,
Rev. Ned Wight, on behalf of the Ministry Team

The INN would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donation of coats, for the guests we serve. By donating to The INN, you have strengthened our community and have helped The INN to continue its mission of aid to those in need on Long Island.

Cynthia Suscich
Director of Communications

I wish to thank you for your generous donation of toys through the RE Mitten Tree project. The toys were distributed to the clients that we serve, and because of you, the clients and their families had a joyous holiday and New Year.

Philip Glotzer, Executive Director
AIDS Center of Queens County

Thank you to the UUCSR Caring Committee and friends for sweet phone messages and cards, and beautiful flowers after my thankfully minor surgery. Knowing you are all there helped the healing process!

Lynn Smith

I want to thank all of you and the people who work with you for your great ministry. I firmly believe that church is more than just people coming together on Sundays to sing and pray, but it is also about serving. Over the years, your church has been diligent about giving gifts to children who are "less fortunate" than others. Linda Breiding was my assistant director and is still my friend. We are happy that she has passed the torch and that you have agreed to keep this great work going. The children appreciate it, the staff here at DSS appreciates you, and hopefully you feel rewarded and that you are reaping the fruit of your labor. Thank you so very much. Happy holidays and New Year to you all.

Patricia A. Maxwell, LMSW
Supervisor, Children Services, Share the Light

I wish to thank the caring committee and our beloved ministers for their get well wishes during my recent illness. We really do have a wonderful, loving community here!

Edwin Frank

Following my work on the Peter Yarrow concert, the ministers sent me a flower arrangement that was beautiful. It was a complete surprise to me. Thank you so much.

Yours in faith, Ruth Weiss

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT

We celebrate achieving a record-high offering collection. On December 9, 2016, our Soulful Sundown service raised \$5000 for a Gift Ark through Heifer International.

We are amazed by the gifts of UUCSR members and friends who contributed \$2500, and are deeply moved by the matching donation of another \$2500 generously contributed by Naomi and Joel Loewy. Thank you! Our gift will truly make a difference in the lives of many. According to the Heifer International website, a Gift Ark donation includes two water buffalos, two cows, two sheep and two goats, along with bees, chicks, rabbits, fish, and more. The Ark will help:

- Care for entire communities with milk, eggs, honey and wool
- Provide income by supplying an abundance of goods to sell
- Sustain farming by providing livestock to work the land
- Improve the lives of families for generations by multiplying and Passing on the Gift

Our Gift Ark donation goes around the world, from Africa to Asia, Europe and the Americas. Wherever there is hunger, poverty and hopelessness, Heifer International answers with the animals, training, and encouragement provided by generous animal gifts.

MILESTONES

We mourn with... Sylvia Specht as she grieves the sudden death of her son, Carl Andrew Horn. A service will be held at UUCSR. A date has not yet been chosen. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to:

Sylvia Specht
5 Virginia Road, Syosset, NY 11791

We offer our condolences to... Beth Fedirko, her husband, Ron Greenberg, and their sons, as their family mourns the death of Beth's father, Walter Fedirko, who died on Monday, January 2, 2017 at the age of 94. A funeral was held in New Jersey. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to:

The Fedirko-Greenberg Family
77 Glen Ave., Sea Cliff, NY 11579

We extend our sympathies to... Corrine Hayden, her husband, Klaus Masuch, their daughters and larger family as they mourn the death of Corinne's mother, Catherine Hayden, who died on December 14th after a protracted period of declining health. Cards of condolence may be sent to:

The Hayden-Masuch Family
854 Hilltop Road, Oyster Bay, NY 11771

We offer our congratulations to... Vince and Martha Chimienti who are celebrating the birth of their second grandchild, Julian, on December 20, 2016. Julian was welcomed by his parents, Liz and Ben, his big brother Isaac, and his doting grandparents. Welcome, little Julian, to the world!

We celebrate with... Rosara Torrisi who has successfully defended her doctoral dissertation on the sexual functioning of lesbian survivors of breast cancer. Congratulations, Dr. Torrisi!

UUCSR OPEN AUDITIONS

Men, Women and Girls, Actors, Understudies and
Backstage People Needed for

“Margaret’s War”
**A drama of Holocaust rescue based on the life of
a former UUCSR member.**

Have fun and get experience with a professional
Director and other professionals.

PERFORMANCES: April 28, 29, 2017
REHEARSALS start in February
Auditions: Tuesday, Wednesday
January 10 and 11, 7:30 p.m.

For sample scripts contact Carson at cjones@uucsr.org
or call 516.472.2915

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see uucsr.org for additional details on all programs.

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

- Art Committee Meeting**, 4:00 p.m., Art Gallery
- Caring Committee Meeting**, 7:00 p.m., Veatch Conference Rm
- Margaret’s War Auditions**, 7:30 p.m., Chapel
- Housing Board Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., Veatch Library

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

- Reach Out America**, 12:30 p.m., Social Hall
- Bridge Group**, 1:00 p.m., Veatch Ballroom
- Library/Bookstore Committee Meeting**, 4:00 p.m., Bride’s Rm
- NAMI Family Support Group**, 7:00 p.m., RE Room 15
- INISFADA-Zen Sitting Meditation**, 7:30 p.m., Veatch Ballroom
- Food & Water Watch Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., Veatch Conference Rm
- Social Justice Committee Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery
- Additional 2nd Wednesday SGM meeting**, 7:30 p.m., RE Rm 19
- Margaret’s War Auditions**, 7:30 p.m., Chapel
- 2nd Wednesday SGM Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., RE Room 16

Thursday, January 12, 2017

- Yoga**, 9:30 a.m., Art Gallery
- 75th Anniversary Gala Planning Committee Meeting**, 6:30 p.m., Bride’s Room
- NAMI Families of Young Adults Support Group**, 7:00 p.m., RE Room 17
- Bylaws Committee Meeting**, 7:15 p.m., Veatch Library
- Finance Committee Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., Office Conference Rm
- Choir Rehearsal**, 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal Room

Friday, January 13, 2017

- Tai Chi/Qi Gong**, 10:15 a.m., Art Gallery
- Bridge Lessons & Game Play**, 1:00 p.m., Veatch Ballroom & Terrace Room
- Soulful Sundown**, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 14, 2017

- Zen All-Day Retreat**, 8:30 a.m., Veatch Main Floor
- Yoga**, 11:00 a.m., Art Gallery
- Dramatic Readings**, 5:00 p.m., Art Gallery
- Midnight Run Preparation**, 6:30 p.m., Social Hall

Sunday, January 15, 2017

- WG Board Meeting**, 8:45 a.m., Veatch Conference & Kitchen
- Great Books-Short Story Omnibus**, 9:00 a.m., Room 4
- Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal**, 9:00 a.m., Choir Rehearsal Room
- Choir Rehearsal**, 10:00 a.m., Choir Rehearsal Room - coffee/tea/hot & cold water in the hallway for this meeting
- Bagel Breakfast**, 10:00 a.m., Social Hall
- Young People’s Choir Rehearsal/Children’s Chapel**, 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- RE Classes**, 11:00 a.m., RE Wing

Worship Service, 11:00 a.m., Worship Room
Grade 1 Activity, 11:00 a.m., Room 9
Love & Stitches Craft Group, 12:30 p.m., Rooms 204, 205
Music Committee Meeting, 12:45 p.m., Office Conference Rm.
Grade 1 Parent Meeting, 12:45 p.m., Room 6
WG Women's History Month Meeting, 12:45 p.m., Veatch Conference Room
3rd Sunday SGM Meeting, 1:00 p.m., Bride's room *New time
Alan Fishkind - Reception, 1:00 p.m., 1p.m. - Art Gallery
Adoption Triad Ministry, 1:00 p.m., RE Room 15
1st Sunday SGM Meeting, 1:00 p.m., Meeting was rescheduled due to the snow/weather (new room) Veatch Terrace Room

Monday, January 16, 2017

BUILDING CLOSED-Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Veatch ED Transition Team Meeting, 3:45 p.m., Bride's Room
Executive Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Veatch Library
SJC Family to Family Speaker Event, 7:00 p.m., RE Room 15
Board of Trustee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Ballroom
SJC - Climate Justice Book Discussion Series, 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

WG - Women Talk Daytime, 12:00 p.m., Art Gallery
Bridge Group, 1:00 p.m., Veatch Ballroom
Climate Justice Taskforce Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Art Gallery
INISFADA-Zen Sitting Meditation, 7:30 p.m. Veatch Ballroom
Emerson & Whitman Spiritual Masters of the 19th Century, 7:30 p.m., Veatch Library

Thursday, January 19, 2017

Yoga, 9:30 a.m., Art Gallery
Lunch Bunch, 1:00 p.m., Diwan Indian Cuisine, 37 Shore Rd, Port Washington, NY 11050, (516) 439-4200. Thursday, Jan. 19, 1:00 p.m. \$23 All inclusive. All Members and Friends of UUCSR welcome!
Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lunchroom
Board of Trustee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Ballroom
Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal Room

Friday, January 20, 2017

Bridge Lessons & Game Play, 1:00 p.m., Veatch Main Floor
WG - Book Series, 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery

Saturday, January 21, 2017

Inn Cooking - Saturday, 9:00 a.m., Main Kitchen
Yoga, 11:00 a.m., Art Gallery

Sunday, January 22, 2017

MH Monthly Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Veatch Conference Room
Great Books-Short Story Omnibus, 9:00 a.m., Room 4
Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, 9:00 a.m., Choir Rehearsal Room
Silver Bay Planning Meeting, 9:45 a.m., Bride's Room
Choir Rehearsal, 10:00 a.m., Choir Rehearsal Room

Bagel Breakfast, 10:00 a.m., Social Hall
Young People's Choir Rehearsal/Children's Chapel, 10:00 a.m., Chapel
UU Cafe - Coming of Age, 12:00 p.m., Social Hall
Congregational Meeting, 12:45 p.m., Social Hall

Monday, January 23, 2017

Together to End - Solitary Confinement, 7:00 p.m., Worship Room, Art Gallery
DAC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Office Conference Room
Interim Minister's Transition Team, 7:30 p.m., Bride's Room

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Executive Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Veatch Library
Veatch BOG Meeting, 5:30 p.m., 1/8/17 -Social Hall
4th Tuesday SGM Meeting, 7:15 p.m., Veatch Terrace Room

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

Bridge Group, 1:00 p.m., Veatch Ballroom
OCIO Selection Task Force Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Veatch Conference Room
INISFADA-Zen Sitting Meditation, 7:30 p.m., Veatch Ballroom

Thursday, January 26, 2017

Yoga, 9:30 a.m., Art Gallery
Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal Room

Friday, January 27, 2017

Music Among Us Rehearsal, 12:15 a.m., Social Hall
Bridge Lessons & Game Play, 1:00 p.m., Veatch Ballroom & Terrace Room
Soulful Small Group, 7:00 p.m., RE Room 14, 16

Saturday, January 28, 2017

Board of Trustees Retreat, 9:00 a.m., Ballroom
Yoga, 11:00 a.m., Art Gallery
Music Among Us - Rehearsal, 1:00 p.m., Social Hall

Sunday, January 29, 2017

Great Books-Short Story Omnibus, 9:00 a.m., Room 4
Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal, 9:00 a.m., Choir Rehearsal Room
Choir Rehearsal, 10:00 a.m., Choir Rehearsal Room
Bagel Breakfast, 10:00 a.m., 10am - Social Hall
Young People's Choir Rehearsal, 10:00 a.m., Chapel
RE Classes, 11:00 a.m.
Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.
Grade 3 Activity, 11:00 a.m., Room 15
Grade 7 Drum Circle Rehearsal, 11:00 a.m., Music Rehearsal Room
UU Cafe, 12:00 p.m., 12p.m. -Social Hall
RE Parent Session: Grades 7 and 8, 12:30 p.m.
SJC Ethical Eating Speaker - Matt Korsky, 1:00 p.m., Veatch Ballroom
Death Cafe, 1:00 p.m., Art Gallery
Music Among Us - Concert, 1:00 p.m., Social Hall

Minister for Pastoral Care:

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Minister of Lifespan Religious Education:

Rev. Natalie M. Fenimore (nfenimore@uucsr.org)

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Officers of the Congregation:

President: Arnold Babel
Vice President: Klaus Masuch
Secretary: John Ryan
Treasurer: Paul Drezner

Members of the Board of Trustees:

Vince Chimienti Barry Nobel
Marilyn Fischell Rebecca Smith
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Next Quest: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 | Deadline for Content: Thursday, January 19, 2017



Men's Group Presents

Super Bowl Sunday Feast

**Watch the Super Bowl - Sunday, February 5, 2017
5:30 - 10:00 p.m. Social Hall**

Open to all adult UUCSR members and their guests.
Please join us for an evening of football & fun!

STANDARD SUPER BOWL FARE!

Hot food, salad, sandwiches, snacks, desserts and beverages will be provided!

***\$20 for members *\$25 for non-member guests**

Facilitator Roman Benke

*RSVP Sharyn at sesposito@uucsr.org ; 516.472.2960.

50/50
Raffle to benefit United Veterans Beacon House!
All proceeds, after expenses to benefit United Veterans Beacon House