

WINTER - SPRING 2018

RACIAL JUSTICE PROGRAM OFFERINGS

**"Power at its best is
love implementing the
demands of justice.**

**Justice at its best
is power correcting
everything that stands
against love."**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Unitarian Universalist
Congregation at **Shelter Rock**
Human. Kind.

Celebrating Worth and Dignity For All

RACIAL JUSTICE PROGRAM OFFERINGS

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The quest for Racial Justice is a part of our ministry at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock. The following congregational programs and events provide information, education, community building, advocacy and organizing opportunities for those seeking to join in this vital ministry.



Volunteers at the MLK Center: Nina Weber and Catherine Ripley

JANUARY

Sunday, January 14, 2018: 11:00 AM, Worship Room

Worship Service

Ever since 2009, the UUA's Beacon Press has been the exclusive trade publisher for the works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Beacon Press chose "The King Legacy" as the name for this collection of his writings, which showcase a very wide range of concerns beyond civil rights that occupied Dr. King's thinking. Rev. Wight's focus is a series of lectures delivered in 1967 underscoring how prophetic King was in identifying fundamental truths underlying persistent American social problems.

Sunday, January 14, 2018: 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Art Gallery

Exhibit runs January 14 - February 13, 2018

"Photo Requests from Solitary"

This exhibit is a unique collaboration between individuals living in isolated confinement who request a photo of anything, real or imagined, and the artists on the outside who fulfill those requests. Join us on January 14 to view these remarkable photos and meet individuals and family members directly affected by prolonged solitary confinement. Learn what you can do to end the torture of prolonged solitary confinement. Co-sponsored by the Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement (CAIC) and the Social Justice and Art Committees of UUCSR.

Tuesday, January 23, 2018: 6:30 PM

Together to End Solitary Monthly Program

After a vigil in the Worship Room, we will go to the Art Gallery for conversation with individuals directly affected by solitary confinement, and share responses to the exhibit, "Photo Requests from Solitary."

Wednesday, January 24, 2018: 7:30 PM, Art Gallery

First meeting of the UUCSR Racial Justice Task Force

Sunday, January 28, 2018: 11:00 AM, Worship Room

Veatch Sunday/Worship Service

"We Resist, We Rise," with Taj James from the Movement Strategy Center.

The Movement Strategy Center works to tie together the threads of community activists to create a unified, multi-issue resistance to oppression. It supports community-organizing efforts through capacity-building, organizational development, and training of new, progressive leaders. After the morning service there will be a panel discussion beginning at 12:45 PM in the Social Hall. Participants will represent Veatch programs that prioritize representation from marginalized communities including: transgendered, indigenous, those of color, and immigrants.

FEBRUARY

Monday, February 5, 2018: 7:00 PM, Art Gallery

Book Discussion on the UU Common Read

Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry led by Rev. Natalie Fenimore. This book tells the stories of Unitarian Universalists religious professionals of color. Discussion of race, authenticity and leadership. Rev. Fenimore is a contributing author of *Centering*. The book is available for purchase for \$18 at UUCSR. Visit the Bookstore to purchase a copy or arrange a purchase, by contacting Carson Jones (516.472.2915 or cjones@uucsr.org).

Also available on Kindle by visiting

<http://amzn.to/2m8OL9A>. RSVP recommended (cjones@uucsr.org)

Friday, February 16, 2018: 7:30 PM, Art Gallery

Book discussion of *Mudbound* by Hillary Jordan

Led by Renee Silver. See Women's Group Book Series flyer for complete information.

Friday, February 23, 2018: 6:30 PM

Together to End Solitary Monthly Program

After a vigil in the Worship Room, we will go to the Art Gallery to view and discuss the video, *Tim Wise: On White Privilege Racism, White Denial & the Costs of Inequality*. Tim Wise, American anti-racism activist, writer, and lecturer, offers a powerful inside-out look at race and racism in America, surveying the damage white privilege has done not only to people of color, but to white people themselves.

Wednesday, February 28, 2018: 7:30 PM, Social Hall

13th

A film by award-winning producer/director, Ava DuVernay. This critically acclaimed film explores the historical progression from slavery to Jim Crow to mass incarceration. The film's title refers to the 13th Amendment to the US Constitution. The film takes an unflinching look at American incarceration and how it affects people of color.

MARCH

Monday, March 5, 2018: 7:00 PM, Art Gallery

Learning About Black Unitarian Universalist History

Join Rev. Natalie M. Fenimore to learn more about the history of African Americans in Unitarian Universalism which can shed light on our current situation. Might there be a different understanding of the role of Black Unitarian Universalists if we had information and resources which provided more context and examples of the involvement of African Americans in our denomination?

Sunday, March 18, 2018: 1:00 PM, Worship Room

Worship Service

with UUA President Susan Fredrick Gray, elected President at last summer's General Assembly in New Orleans

The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray will join us for this service to share some of her observations about the transformational work she and the UUA staff have undertaken following last spring's resignations and turmoil at the UUA.

Friday, March 23, 2018: 6:30 PM

Together to End Solitary Monthly Program

After a vigil in the Worship Room, we will go to the Art Gallery to view and discuss a video presentation on *Implicit Bias*, with Julie Nelson, Director of the Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE), Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society. Implicit biases are those biases that people are usually unaware of and that operate at the subconscious level. Ms. Nelson will integrate the Implicit Association Test into her presentation and will highlight the ways in which bias and racism play out at the individual, institutional, and structural levels.

Wednesday, March 28, 2018: 7:30 PM, Art Gallery

“What is the Movement for Black Lives?” A Conversation with Professor Bianca C. Williams

Bianca C. Williams, PhD, is a black feminist cultural anthropologist, studying race, gender, and activism; most recently in the Black Lives Matter movement. She is Associate Professor in the Anthropology Program at the CUNY Graduate Center, NYC. She was previously an Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology at the University of Colorado Boulder, where she received the 2016 American Anthropological Association and Oxford University Press Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching of Anthropology. Dr. Williams is well-known in UU circles in Boulder, CO.

APRIL

Friday - Sunday, April 6 - 8, 2018: New York City

Revolutionary Love 2018

Complete the Dream: Disruptive Ethics to Dismantle Racism. This is a national conference for leaders, activists, and advocates for compassion and justice. Meeting at the Middle Collegiate Church, New York City (Register online at revolutionaryloveconference.com)

Monday, April 23, 2018: 6:30 PM

Together to End Solitary Monthly Program

After a vigil in the Worship Room, we will go to the Art Gallery to view and discuss the video presentation, *A Case Study on Mass Incarceration*, with James Bell, JD, Founder and Executive Director, The W. Haywood Burns Institute. “We live in a country that is addicted to incarceration as a tool for social control. As it stands now, justice systems are extremely expensive, do not

rehabilitate but in fact make the people that experience them worse and have no evidence-based correlatives to reducing crime.” —James Bell

Wednesday, April 25, 2018: 7:30 PM, Art Gallery

UU White Supremacy Teach-In (*In place of the Racial Justice Task Force Meeting*)

The UU White Supremacy Teach-In is a chance to look critically within our faith community - for the ways racism, sexism and white supremacy live. We will work with this definition: “White supremacy as a set of institutional assumptions and practices, often operating unconsciously, that tend to benefit white people and exclude people of color.” In 2017, actual “white supremacists” are not required in order to uphold white supremacist culture. Building a faith full of people who understand that key distinction is essential as we work toward a more just society in difficult political times. Stemming from the hiring crisis within the UUA in 2017, this call to action comes from a growing network of UUs--religious professionals and lay leaders from both within and outside congregations--led by UUs of color and white UUs working together. Rev. Ned Wight will lead the Teach-In.

Wednesday, April 30, 2018: 6:00 PM

Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County

Welwyn Preserve, 100 Crescent Beach Road, Glen Cove, NY 11542

Antisemitism, racism, bullying and all other manifestations of intolerance are all too common today. As individuals, how do we respond when we meet those who express prejudice and bigotry? This program is designed to empower you to know what to say and how to say it when you encounter these situations. The program will take place within the context of a tour of the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County followed by a presentation and conversation with their well-trained docents. Cost is \$20.00 payable when you register. The maximum number of participants is 30. We need a minimum of 25 participants to hold the program. Please register by April 15 at www.uucsr.org/GCHolocaust. If you have problems with registration, please contact Sharyn Esposito (516.472.2960 or sesposito@uucsr.org).

MAY

Wednesday, May 23, 2018: 6:30 PM

Together to End Solitary Monthly Program

After a vigil in the Worship Room, we will go to the Art Gallery to view and discuss the video presentation, *I'm a Good Person. Isn't That Enough?*, by Debby Irving. Debby (Kittredge) Irving has worked since the 1980s to foster diversity, inclusiveness, and community-building. She brings to racial justice the perspective of working as a community organizer and classroom teacher for 25 years without understanding racism as a systemic issue or her own whiteness as an obstacle to grappling with it.

Wednesday, May 30, 2018: 7:30 PM, Art Gallery

Racial Justice Task Force Meeting

JUNE

Wednesday, June 13, 2018: 7:30 PM, Art Gallery

“National Efforts to End Prolonged Solitary Confinement”

with Rev. Ron Stief, Executive Director, National Religious Campaign Against Torture

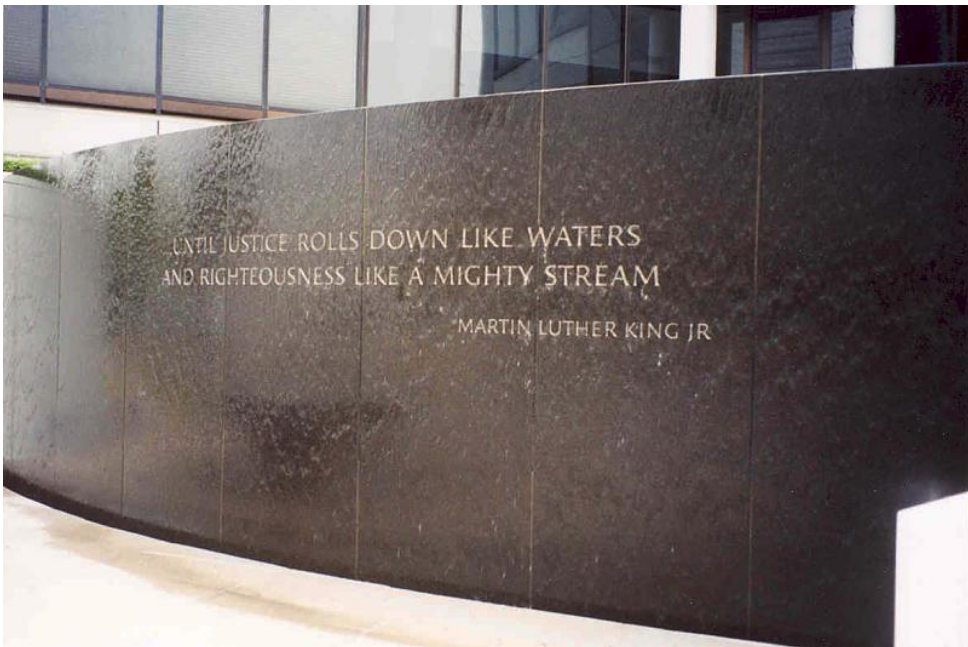
Saturday, June 23, 2018: 6:30 PM, Art Gallery

Together to End Solitary Monthly Program

After a vigil in the Worship Room, we will go to the art gallery to view and discuss the video presentation, *The Racial Mosaic of America*, with Manuel Pastor, Professor of Sociology and American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California. His presentation looks at the experiences of non-black racial minorities in the United States.

Wednesday, June 27, 2018: 7:30 PM, Art Gallery

Racial Justice Task Force Meeting



OUR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST PRINCIPLES

We affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregation;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Vision Statement

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

Mission Statement

We gather together in religious community:

- To live, honor and promote the 7 Principles of Unitarian Universalism.
- To nourish the spiritual needs of current and future members.
- To grow a diverse and multigenerational religious community, bound together with love.
- To commit our time, talents, and unique resources to building a just and compassionate world.
- To celebrate the joy of living, lifelong-learning and building lives of worth and purpose.

Jennifer L. Brower, *Minister for Pastoral Care (on sabbatical)*

Natalie M. Fenimore, *Minister of Lifespan Religious Education*

Ned Wight, *Interim Senior Minister*

Nancy Reid-McKee, *Ministerial Intern*

Adam Barshak, *Congregation Operations Administrator*

Joan Minieri, *Executive Director, Veatch Program*

Stephen Michael Smith, *Music Director*

UUCSR OFFICERS

Klaus Masuch, *President*

John Ryan, *Secretary*

Mark Hartman, *Vice President*

Paul Drezner, *Treasurer*

48 Shelter Rock Rd. Manhasset, NY 11030

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