



The Quest

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

May 16, 2017



TOUCHSTONES

The Rev. Jennifer L. Brower



It is a little hard for me to believe, but at the beginning of this calendar year I marked 15 years of ministry here with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock. I began service with the members of the congregation on January 15, 2002. In some ways, the time has passed in the blink of an eye. But a great deal of change has occurred over those 15 years. New members have joined our congregation, and many long-time members have

died. Our staff has grown and changed. During the years of my ministry, a Senior Minister was called, served and retired. A long-time minister who'd served as the institutional memory of our team also retired. A new Minister of Lifespan Religious Education was called and settled. And I have experienced the leadership of eight different Board Presidents, to name just some of what has changed. As I reflect upon the past 15 years, I am also looking ahead. In addition to marking the 15 year milestone, 2017 is also time to prepare for a sabbatical leave.

While it has become common practice within Unitarian Universalist congregations for ministers to take a sabbatical leave – and though our congregation has experienced five ministerial sabbaticals over

the past 15 years – I am aware that some of you have questions about my upcoming sabbatical. I'd like to take this opportunity and use this space to answer as many of those questions as I can.

As you may or may not be aware, our congregation's sabbatical leave policy - which is consistent with those of other UU congregations - allows for one month of sabbatical leave time for each year served, and stipulates that the sabbatical be taken in the fifth, sixth or seventh year of service. In accordance with that policy, beginning in January 2017 – starting my 16th year of service - I became eligible for a five month sabbatical leave. Before the start of the current congregational year, I postponed the start of the sabbatical, not knowing if we would have an Interim Senior Minister. Now that we do – and after conversation with my colleagues in ministry and our Board of Trustees - it has been determined that my sabbatical leave will begin in mid-August. I will return to my ministry by the end of January 2018. Before the sabbatical begins, exact dates will be posted.

You may wonder about the function of a sabbatical for a minister. The sabbatical provides a time away from the usual routine of ministerial duties; it allows a minister the opportunity to engage in the work of spiritual renewal and professional growth, intended to inspire and enhance one's ministry. It is expected that both the minister and congregation will reap the benefits of a minister's sabbatical.

Some have asked how the duties of my ministry will be covered during my absence. For the most part, those duties will be covered by the ministry team members, including our next student minister. Ministers from other Long Island UU congregations will also lend a hand with worship services, rites of passage and pastoral care, as needed. UUCSR is part of a group of mutually supportive congregations that assist one another during periods of ministerial leave – sabbatical, medical or otherwise. I hope you will welcome the opportunity to get to know the ministers who come to assist our ministry team. Lay staff will handle some additional tasks as well. If you have coverage questions while I am out, you may contact a member of the Sabbatical Planning Committee. The members of the Sabbatical Planning Committee are Steve Marston (Chair), Betty Gold, Rhonda Kessler, Marilyn Fischell and Frank Teltsch.

Along with the vocational privilege of a sabbatical comes a responsibility to use that time in a manner that will provide fresh insight, renewed energy and balance in one's ministry. To that end,

Continued page 2

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, May 21, 2017 - 11:00 AM
"Bridging Sunday"
The Rev. Natalie Fenimore

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.

TOUCHSTONES

Continued from page 1

each minister's plan for how they will spend their sabbatical is different and serves their unique needs for rest, renewal, study and discernment. Some of my colleagues have worked on advanced degrees and others have taken up new pursuits, like Sufi dancing. During my last sabbatical, I explored new physical practices to discern where and how the Holy was moving in my life at that time. I have kept up the practice of swimming as a means of communion with the Source of Life. I attended worship in other communities - some of what I observed and learned has been helpful to my work with Soulful Sundown. I also did some work with a spiritual director and coach. My plans for this sabbatical include a series of short courses and workshops offered by seminaries and other resources for ministerial continued education. I also have a long list of pursuits I might explore - too many, I'm afraid - to accomplish during the sabbatical time. I am narrowing that list.

My upcoming sabbatical is a valued opportunity for both vocational and personal growth. I am grateful for the privilege of having this time for spiritual renewal and learning. Thank you for granting me - and all of your settled ministers - such an opportunity. I look forward to the months ahead and a return to my ministry with you with a revitalized spirit and new insights to share.

Yours in Faith,
Reverend Jennifer

75TH ANNIVERSARY HIKE



All members and friends are welcome to participate in a guided walk in our beautiful woods, Sunday, May 21, 1:30 PM, immediately following the RE picnic. It will be led by Douglas Winkler, congregant and expert on the flora and fauna, and geological history of our grounds.

Hike approximately one hour. This is a fair weather event only; it will be rescheduled in case of inclement weather. Questions? Contact Ben Bortin: bbortin@uucsr.org or 516.472.2934.

CONGREGATIONAL AFFAIRS

ANNUAL MEETING & BRUNCH

Annual Meeting & Sunday Brunch

Sunday, June 4, 2017

Sunday Brunch

12:30 PM

Social Hall

Annual Meeting

2:00 PM

Worship Room

*Both Brunch and Meeting
are free and open to all.*

Brunch RSVPs are highly encouraged.
Contact Tammy at twel@uucsr.org

MEMBER RESOURCES

Visit uucsr.org!

Log in to the MYUUCSR for reference materials and more.

You will find a new "Who's Who" directory of current UUCSR leadership.

Questions?

Call Jen Sappell, 516.472.2980 for assistance using MYUUCSR. You'll be glad you did!

VEATCH VIEWS

Joan Minieri, Executive Director



Veatch Leads the Way in Progressive Philanthropy

In honor of the 75th Anniversary celebrations currently underway in the congregation, I'd like to share with you some of the ways we have been building on the Veatch Program's long history of leadership in progressive philanthropy. We've had some exciting programs with other funders and social justice leaders this Spring.

National Climate Justice: I joined with many Veatch Program grantees on April 29th for the People's Climate March in Washington, D.C. It stirred my deep optimism in the power of ordinary people as I took to the streets in our nation's capital with 200,000 others from throughout the country. I later learned that as the marchers encircled the White House and each put our hands to our hearts at precisely 2:00 PM, Claire Deroche, Social Justice Coordinator, and UUCSR members were doing the same in a sister march here on Long Island.

Nearly all of those who addressed the crowds at the March were connected to organizations back home. Cherri Foytlin, an indigenous leader and State Director of the grassroots organization BOLD Louisiana shared the stage with her two teenage daughters. They described how rising waters devastate their community every time a storm comes through the region. Some of the many Veatch grantee organizations who spoke at the rally, or mobilized their members to attend the march, included Florida New Majority, Grassroots Global Justice, National People's Action, Community Voices Heard, and Standing on the Side of Love (UUA). An organizer with longtime grantee, the Kentucky Coalition, an organization whose work is reducing reliance on a coal economy, shared a story of attending a celebration earlier that week at the Coal Museum in his hometown. They were celebrating the installation of solar panels on the museum's roof. He gave us a vision for the future.

The congregation recently voted to make a Large Grant to the People's Climate Movement, which will go a long way toward building on this grassroots momentum.

Weathering the Storms Day-Long Convening: The Veatch Program co-convened a conference with over 100 participants from 40 foundations at the Ford Foundation on May 9. Over 100 participants from 40 foundations reviewed how to best support data security and rapid response communications with grantees, who are increasingly under attack for their social justice work with immigrants, workers and other vulnerable communities. RoadMap, the organization we fund to provide technical assistance to our grantees, distributed a detailed toolkit and checklist, and facilitated small group strategy sessions. Molly Schultz Hafid, our Assistant Director played a key role in initiating the Weathering the Storms program and organizing this timely event.

Hope in the Heartland Webinar: Faron McLurkin, our Program Officer, took a lead role in organizing a webinar on May 11 with

over 80 funders, featuring the stories and perspectives of longtime grantees working in the nation's heartland. Tarso Luis Ramos of Political Research Associates held a conversation with Mark Schultz from the Land Stewardship Project in Minnesota and Rhonda Perry of the Missouri Rural Crisis Center. Tarso, who met with the Veatch Governors at our September retreat and with the congregation at the Shelter Rock Forum in the Fall, provided an overview of "alt-right" groups in the U.S. Tarso, Mark and Rhonda, then discussed successful models for organizing thousands of rural, white, working-class community members, using explicit conversations about race and racism.

I am so pleased to be able to share good news with you about the impact of Veatch and the organizations it supports and collaborates with throughout our country. As always, please reach out to me with any questions you have 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.

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC

ORCHESTRA AT SHELTER ROCK

Stephen Michael Smith, Music Director/Conductor

Call For Musicians

THE ORCHESTRA AT SHELTER ROCK SUMMER CONCERT



REHEARSALS

Wednesday Evenings, 7:00 - 9:30 PM
JULY 5, 12, 19, 26

PERFORMANCE

Sunday, July 30
CALL: 12:00 PM | PERFORMANCE 1:00 PM

REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCE AT

Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock
(Air-conditioned, free parking, stands and lights provided)

For further information, or to register to play, please contact Sylvia Cordero-Skidmore, Orchestra Librarian:
uumusic@uucsr.org or 516.472.2978

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Jeanne Nametz, Religious Education (RE) Coordinator



When Does RE End?

The answer to that question is very complicated! Let's start with our RE program. The last day of classes was Sunday, May 14 but there are many Spring/Summer events going on:

Bridging Sunday Family Service is May 21 and celebrates transitions of our second graders, sixth graders and seniors. Second graders celebrate their knowledge of our UU principles and how to use them in everyday

life. The sixth graders celebrate the emergence of their spiritual selves operating as social change agents. The seniors mark the transition from youth to adults within a faith community. It is a beautiful family service!

Coming of Age (COA) Family Service is June 4 and celebrates the transition of our eighth graders into deeper relationship with their faith community. COA students complete a year of spiritual inquiry that culminates in a written credo of their own which they share with the congregation. It is always inspiring to experience our youth share their credos with the congregation!

A Babysitting Skills Program is being launched this June for girls and boys ages 12+. This three-week program will be Sundays June 11, 18 and 25 during services. Topics will include games and activities, safety, first aid and marketing. Our facilitator is Maggie Boon. Maggie is an RE teacher and member of UUCSR. She is a vocational counselor for individuals with disabilities and has 20 years babysitting experience. Please call Carson Jones at cjones@uucsr.org to register.

Our Arts and Nature at the Rock is UUCSR's five-week summer program for children K-Grade 6. Held concurrently with summer services, the program includes creating music, making art, outdoor adventures and service projects. The dates are July 16, 23, 30, August 7 and 14. Registration will open mid-May.

So when does RE end? Well, the format may change, but here at UUCSR we offer RE experiences year round.

Many Blessings!
Jeanne Nametz

RE PROGRAMMING DURING THE ANNUAL MEETING

Mad Science Party: Fire and Ice - For elementary school kids, Kindergarten - Grade 6 Sunday, June 4, 1:00 - 2:00 PM, Room 15. Please RSVP to cjones@uucsr.org to ensure a Mad Science labcoat is ready for you! (Pizza party to follow the show)

Childcare - For our youngest in Room 2

Youth Lounge - Open for Grades 7-12

Lunch provided for all!

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Ben Bortin, Membership/Volunteer Coordinator



In the wake of Jeanne Nametz' fine presentation at the Sunday service of May 7 about the "congregation that almost wasn't," it occurred to me that there was more than one respect in which that claim is the case about our congregation. Jeanne had mentioned that after two years, the religious education program for children was on the wane. With a visit from Sophia Lyons Fahs, one of the great Unitarian religious educators of the last century,

the program was revived. Because "*We Started With the Children*," in the words of the title of Robert Sunley's book, by extension, the congregation was also revived.

Knowing how many UU congregations face the challenge of vulnerable, even non-existent children's programs today, we could assuredly use the services of a Sophia Fahs again.

But there was another respect in which this congregation almost wasn't. Before the Unitarian Sunday school began in Port Washington in the September of 1941, there was an attempt in 1939 to form a Unitarian congregation in Manhasset. 4,000 letters were sent, announcing the beginnings of this new society. Financial assistance was received from the American Unitarian Association.

As many as 75 households attended at one point. But the congregation folded after a year. It took the willingness of a few people to rebound from a disappointment, from a failure, and spawn a congregation, one that encouraged freedom of expression and the use of the mind, one that honored universal human dignity, one that honored the teachings of science, a congregation that has lasted to this day, namely this congregation.

And why were these early people so persistent? Their own words are an eloquent answer... "...In the world of tomorrow, as well as in this critical time, our children need the teachings of a liberal religion if they are to understand their responsibilities in a world dedicated to freedoms for all peoples."

My thanks to Sandra Frank and Chris Hilke for chairing the committee that is celebrating this congregation and its heritage. The values and aspirations held by the founders of this congregation have, I feel, more in common with our principles and purposes than there are differences.

Shalom and Salaam,

Hold the Date:

There will be a field trip to Sagamore Hills, the Teddy Roosevelt home and museum, Thursday, June 15th. The UUCSR Van will leave from the UUCSR parking lot at 10 AM. \$10/person - probably less for Seniors. Lunch at Canterbury Ales.

Appreciation

A new group from the congregation has formed, with the aim of enhancing our practices of appreciation, when people in the congregation show exceptional generosity or achievement. The new group consists of Betty Gold, Riki Burke, Carla Drezner, and Rebecca Smith. Together they have devised a new, and I feel a warm, meaningful approach to expressing acknowledgement for retiring Chairs of committees and boards at our annual luncheon. My thanks to all of them. Ben Bortin

THANK YOU

Gail Goldstein Koelln wishes to thank Rhonda Kessler, the Caring Committee, the Choir, the Ministers, and the congregation for your good wishes and gifts of needed food, a lovely pillow and a beautiful plant that I received after my fall in mid-April. All those things certainly conveyed to me the warmth of our UUCSR community and helped make my healing less painful. I am truly grateful to you all.

Gail Koelln

Margaret's War was a great success due in part, at least, to the custodial staff. We couldn't have done it without you. A special thanks to Roberto who provided access to the props closet more times than we can count.

The Props Crew: Mary Lardner, Lee Geisen and Martha Chimienti

Dear Caring Committee:

My recent Rehabilitation stay for leg surgery was just too long, but I will be leaving on Saturday May 13th and leaving the New York area to live in Seattle with my younger son, Dr. Stephen Morris, his wife and two delightful grandchildren, 2 years and 4 years. I want to thank you for the exotic plant you sent and I am happy to say a gardening friend of mine has already adopted it and is looking forward to giving it a long life. My thanks also to the caring committee for the phone calls and to Ned Wight for his emails and a visit all of which helped make this 7 week stay somewhat acceptable. I am walking with a walker and hope to further improve at a rehabilitation facility in Seattle. I will miss many of you and particularly miss the beautiful SR property, but hope to join the University congregation in Seattle.

Best Wishes to all,
Christina D. Morris

UUCSR Refugee Resettlement Project: The CoUUrage to Defy Hate Task Force thanks all who are supporting congregational efforts to assist refugee families resettling on Long Island. Thus far you have contributed \$1,395 worth of gift cards, several bags of sheets and towels, and a child's car seat. We are also grateful to those who are participating in the "Choose a Heart! Clothe a Child" campaign by donating new or gently used children's clothing. The families we are assisting are profoundly grateful!

NAMI Walks: The Shelter Rockers are very grateful to all who supported their participation in NAMI Walks on Saturday, May 6. Members contributed over \$1,000 to this effort! Thank you!

Thank you for the beautiful plant commemorating the 25th anniversary of my son's murder on Mother's Day, May 10. Some years are harder than others and Richard and I are so grateful to have all of you in our lives.

Claire Z. Bock

May 16, 2017

CARING COMMITTEE

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT MOM AND DAD BEING ISOLATED?

Join Selfhelp's FREE Virtual Senior Center (VSC) where each day is different, interesting, and stimulating while never leaving your home. Get a FREE easy-to-use computer and Internet service to ...

CONNECT with new friends online; email and Skype with friends and family

PARTICIPATE in live, interactive, discussions on art, history/current news, exercise, music, museum tours, and well-being.

PLAY games and explore what the Internet has to offer.



- ◊ Easy-to-use
- ◊ All from your home
- ◊ Diverse programs weekly
- ◊ Relieves boredom & isolation
- ◊ Training & technical support available



Wednesday, May 24
1:00 - 3:00 PM, Art Gallery

Special guests:
David Dring, Executive Director Selfhelp Initiatives
and Hang Liu 718.559.4460 or hliu@selfhelp.net
<http://vscm.selfhelp.net>

Reserve your spot at
uucsr.org/vsc or with Kimberly
Rossiter at 516.472.2941 or
krossiter@uucsr.org

A Prevention Education Initiative
For Senior Citizens

Generation Rx Safe Medication Practices in Today's Prescription Drug Epidemic

A Panel Discussion featuring

- **Reisa Berg, LMSW**
Director of Education and Prevention
Long Island Council on Alcoholism and
Drug Dependence (LICADD)
- **Howard Jacobson, R.Ph.**
President, Long Island Pharmacists Society
- **Richard Koffler LCSW-R, CASAC-G**
It's Never too Late: Nationally Recognized
Older Adults Chemical Dependency Outreach Program
- **Paulette Phillippe**
Advisory Committee Member
Families in Support of Treatment (F.I.S.T.)
Senior Citizen who lost her grandchild to opioid overdose



For more information or to RSVP, contact
Kimberly Rossiter, Minister Assistant at 516.472.2941 or
Manhasset CASA at 516.267.7548

Advocating for Adequate Healthcare

We are seeking those interested in being a part of a task force to formulate ideas related to their healthcare experiences. We will develop programming based upon specific concerns that you've faced. You may be interested in sharing about either inpatient or outpatient experiences with the intention of developing programming.

Please contact Rhonda Kessler, Chair of Caring Committee at 516.319.1360. Thank you.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR

Claire Deroche



Who is Gaida?

By now I hope you're aware that on Friday, May 19 at 7:30 PM in the Worship Room we will have the opportunity assist Syrian, Iraqi, and Afghan refugees as we enjoy one of the most "effusive and charming" singers in the New York world-music scene, Gaida. Born in Germany to Syrian parents and raised in Syria, she grew up singing the melodies she

heard from her mother.

Like many other immigrants, Gaida came to the United States to study and wasn't considering a career in music. At Wayne State University in Michigan she studied biological sciences. It wasn't long before her "itch" for music took over, and she enrolled in music and singing classes. She continued to develop her talent when she moved to New York City in 2001. In 2006 she began performing professionally. Today she is a much sought after performer who combines traditional Arabic melodies with American Jazz and Bossa Nova.



Along with her musical career, Gaida is also a speech pathologist and vocal coach. While pursuing her music, she was employed as an Arabic interpreter for speech pathologists working with children. This experience inspired her to attend Columbia University's Teachers College, and today she heads the speech pathology department at a New York City rehabilitation center.

As you can imagine, the war in Syria touches her deeply, and her concerns for relatives still in the country and Syrians in general run deep. It's heartbreaking the effect the war is having on this "beautiful, vulnerable people" she told Todd Zwillich in an interview on WNYC radio. She continued, "The responsibility of human beings is to help people, other people in need. When you don't help other people in need, you feel an ache inside." Regarding her responsibility as a Syrian living in the United States, she said: "It's important to be true to the American people and explain to them that human beings everywhere are the same. They just want to survive and have dignity and a decent life."

On Friday evening, May 19th we will have the opportunity to meet and enjoy the music of this performer who combines the talent of a singer with the heart of a humanitarian. We will also have the opportunity to meet some recently arrived refugees who will be in attendance. Proceeds from the concert will go to Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Services, LI and Church World Service to support newly arrived Syrian, Afghan and Iraqi refugee families in Long Island and New Jersey. Tickets at the door: \$25; adult tickets online: \$20; under 18 tickets online: \$10. Visit www.uucsr.org/GAIDA to purchase tickets online; for additional information call 516.472.2960. I look forward to seeing you there!

MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Myth:

Memory loss is a natural part of aging.

Reality:

As people age, it's normal to have occasional memory problems, such as forgetting the name of a person you've recently met. However, Alzheimer's is more than occasional memory loss. It's a disease that causes brain cells to malfunction and ultimately die. When this happens, an individual may forget the name of a longtime friend or what roads to take to return to a home they've lived in for decades.

It can be difficult to tell normal memory problems from memory problems that should be a cause for concern. The Alzheimer's Association has developed information to help you tell the difference. If you or a loved one has memory problems or other problems with thinking and learning that concern you, contact a physician. Sometimes the problems are caused by medication side effects, vitamin deficiencies or other conditions and can be reversed with treatment. The memory and thinking problems may also be caused by another type of dementia.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION
AT SHELTER ROCK
Supports



MENTAL HEALTH

SHELTER ROCK BOOKSTORE



*'Tis the Season for Teacher
and Graduation Gifts!*

*Stop by the bookstore for a
great assortment of terrific
books and lots of lovely jewelry
and other gifts. Have fun
choosing something perfect!*

SOCIAL JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Have a Heart! Help a Refugee Child! The SJ CoUUrage to Defy Hate Task Force urges you to participate in the UUCSR Refugee Resettlement Project. You will find a display in the main lobby with heart shaped clothing requests for the children in the Afghan and El Salvadoran families we are assisting. Please take a heart, purchase a new or donate a gently used item described on the heart, and return it the following Sunday to the designated basket. You are also invited to continue to donate gift cards in any denomination; new and/or clean and gently used sheet sets (double bed size); and towels: bath, hand, and kitchen, placing them in the labeled bin in the lobby; or donate used child car seats or strollers. Thank you! (Link to revised flyer.)

Concert to Benefit Refugee Families, 7:30 PM, Worship Room. The Social Justice CoUUrage to Defy Hate Task Force will sponsor a concert featuring Syrian singer, Gaida, accompanied by her band to raise funds for refugees. "Timeout New York" called Gaida one of the most "effusive and charming" singers in the New York world-music scene. Proceeds from the concert will go to Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Services, LI and Church World Service to support newly arrived Syrian, Afghan and Iraqi refugee families in Long Island and New Jersey. Tickets at door: \$25; adult tickets online: \$20; under 18 tickets online: \$10. Visit www.uucsr.org/GAIDA to purchase tickets online; for additional information call 516.472.2960.

Wednesday, May 16

NY Interfaith Campaign Against Torture, Conference Call "Ending Prolonged Solitary Confinement:" 6:00 – 7:00 PM Call in number: 1.855.392.2520. When prompted, enter code 5471845#. Our special guest for this call will be Amos Caley, Associate Pastor of Youth and Worship at the Reformed Church of Highland Park (NJ). Amos is committed to the work of building coalitions and programs to address social and political injustice, particularly in the criminal justice system. He has worked closely with NeighborCorps Reentry Services, the National Religious Campaign Against Torture, and the New Jersey Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement. He will share with us his experience of advocating for the New Jersey HALT legislation. If you intend to participate, please email cderoche@uucsr.org to receive the agenda prior to the call.

Social Justice Committee Meeting, 7:30 PM in the Art Gallery. All are welcome to join us as we plan our "Worth and Dignity of All" actions for 2017-2018.

Wednesday, May 17

Social Justice Climate Justice Task Force Meeting, 7:00 PM in the Art Gallery. The Task Force will evaluate this year's programs and start planning for next year. Interested newcomers are always welcome.

Sunday, May 21

SJ Mental Health Subcommittee Meeting, 9:00 PM, Veatch House Conference Room. Please join us to affirm next year's chairperson and continue planning for future events.

Tuesday, May 23

Together to End Solitary Confinement, 6:30 PM, Art Gallery: A screening of the documentary, 13th by Ava DuVernay followed by a remembrance of those who endure the torture of solitary confinement. The title, 13th refers to the 13th Amendment of the Constitution ratified in 1865: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." In this searing documentary, director Ava DuVernay explores the historical progression from slavery to Jim Crow to mass incarceration. According to the New York Times, Ms DuVernay "sprints through the history of American race and incarceration with seamless economy."* We'll follow the movie with discussion. Since the film is 110 minutes, we'll begin with the screening followed by discussion and ending with our vigil for those enduring the torture of solitary confinement. We will gather in the Art Gallery for the entire program.

*NYT, 7/20/16, <http://tinyurl.com/mbqqjz5>

Wednesday, May 24

CoUUrage to Defy Hate Task Force Meeting, 7:30 PM, Office Conference Room: We will evaluate the concert and discuss future plans for the Task Force.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Saturday, June 3

Rebuilding Together LI: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM. Co-sponsored by the UUCSR Social Justice Committee and Board of Missions and Outreach of the Congregational Church of Manhasset. Work together with skilled carpenters to build a ramp on the house of someone in need in Nassau County. If you do have building experience, welcome! However, no special skills or training are needed. Get to know others while at the same time helping a neighbor in need. Volunteers 18 years of age and older are encouraged to join us. Contact project coordinator Patti Paris at parislibrary@yahoo.com no later than Thursday, June 1.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHARING

Non-perishable food donations: Our donation drive continues and will next benefit the INN Soup Kitchen in Glen Cove. 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!

WOMEN'S GROUP

Maria Ceraulo, Chair, Women's Issues

Reproductive Health Care in New York

Although no women were included in the working group that came up with the recently passed federal Health Bill, women are directly and negatively impacted. In New York, however, we have the support of our Governor and the opportunity to support legislation that will work to positively impact women.



If the federal bill becomes law, dire consequences will fall on women, their children, the poor and disabled and anyone with a pre-existing condition. The House bill will cut off federal dollars for Planned Parenthood, prohibiting the use of federal tax credits to buy insurance including abortion. It will actually allow states to seek waivers of provisions of the Affordable Care Act that requires insurers to cover maternity care! A roll back of the expansion of Medicaid will imperil coverage to 11 million people. It's really difficult to imagine that our federal legislators are promoting legislation that would literally cost lives. Poor women will not have access to contraception, abortion, or even maternity care. After, they will suffer the consequences of having little access to affordable child care -presuming they haven't been terminated for being pregnant in the first place. They may then join the enormous numbers of homeless women and children. While this may be an acceptable outcome for proponents of this recently passed Assembly bill, it's not acceptable for us.

In New York, there are two bills that will help protect reproductive health in New York. They have already passed in our Assembly on Jan. 17, and need to get Senate approval. They are the Reproductive Health Act and the Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act.

The Reproductive Health Act will update New York State law to bring it in line with Roe v. Wade. It will protect providers and take abortion out of the penal code.

The Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act will require health insurance to cover all contraception. It will ensure and improve access to contraception and over the counter emergency contraception.

We urge you to contact your Senator and demand that he or she protect reproductive rights in New York State and vote to pass these two bills. New York needs to lead the country. The federal bill provisions CANNOT and WILL NOT happen in New York. Our Governor stated: "As Washington seeks to limit the rights of women, New York continues to protect them." Our Governor is committed to women's rights to control their own health. Let's be certain our Senators vote to pass these two bills.

SUPPORT GROUP

As You Journey Through Bereavement...A Support Group Can Help 7:00-8:30 PM, Thursdays, Free. Contact Kimberly Rossister at 516.472.2941, krossiter@uucsr.org or register at uucsr.org

MEN'S GROUP

Spring Fling Dinner & Square Dance

Saturday, May 20, 6:00 PM, Social Hall

Members: \$15 Singles; \$25 Couples

Non-Members: \$20 Singles; \$30 Couples

Primo Fiore

Professional caller, Primo, will have you swinging your partner do-si-do!

Dress the part

Go all out, but jeans and a bandana will qualify!

50-50 Raffle

To benefit United Veterans Beacon House

WOMEN'S GROUP ANNUAL MEETING



**SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2017
12:30 PM, Veatch Ballroom**

Enjoy Lunch and a Special Planned Program

As we celebrate being together.

Special Guest Speaker To Be Announced

FREE - Current Women's Group Members

**\$10.00 - For new PAID 2017-2018
Women's Group Members**

\$20.00 - Guests without reservations

Please RSVP to Sharyn by June 9

516.472.2960; sesposito@uucsr.org

Childcare available by request by June 2

GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

Protecting Our Coral Reefs

Do you know why coral reefs are important? They are sensitive systems composed of highly unusual animals. Yes, animals! These are tiny creatures called polyps. They act like farmers and capture the colorful single-celled plants known as algae. Algae convert sunlight into food. The coral polyps then become colonies and build a limestone scaffolding on which to live. This is called a reef. The major problem for most of the world's coral reefs occurs when the water they live in gets too hot. Therefore, the algae begin producing toxins. So the coral acts in self-defense by expelling these toxins which causes them to turn white. This is known as bleaching. The coral can only recover if water temperatures drop quickly. However, they usually do not and are rising, and the coral succumbs to starvation and disease.

Our tropical coral reefs have been wonderful places to visit not just for tourists, snorkelers and scuba divers. They are prized as one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. They are home to a quarter of all marine species and protect our coastal communities from storms. They serve as barriers which diminish the force of waves and especially storm surges. Hundreds of millions of people depend on them to get their proteins from reef fish. The loss of this food supply would create a humanitarian crisis. In the 21st Century, the biggest threat to coral is global warming. The ocean has already warmed 1.5 degrees F, which spiked during El Niño in 2016, making the water the hottest since 1880. This resulted in bleaching of coral reefs worldwide.

The largest coral reef in the world, the Great Barrier Coral Reef, is suffering. It is located off the northeast coast of Australia. Its size is equivalent to the fifth-largest state in the United States, ranking between Montana and New Mexico. It is considered to be one of the world's most beautiful natural wonders. However, it is being killed by more than the warming ocean's acidity and bleaching. The coal mining industry is to blame.

This is the villain in central Queensland, Australia. In Queensland, there are huge coal reserves which the coal industry wants opened for mining. To accomplish this, according to the organization Greenpeace, millions of tons of seafloor will need to be dredged in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. There a massive coal port expansion will be constructed. This means that hundreds of coal ships will pass through the Reef each day. The risk of oil spills and other accidents is increased, negatively affecting the Reef. Already, only 9% of the Reef has avoided bleaching since 1998. The bleaching stretches along a 500-mile section north of Cairns, a city along Australia's eastern coast. The tales scuba divers and others relate are sad as they watch this glorious and fragile Reef disappearing. But the coal port will be most likely be approved despite the outcry from opponents. Australia happens to be the largest coal exporter in the world and this project has government support.

We know that coal mining activity is dirty. We understand how its pollution goes everywhere. We also realize that this industry is doomed and will be short lived as we run out of it. But those who seek profits keep accelerating the industry and inviting more pollution and environmental degradation. Last year, in 2016 the warming oceans caused the worst coral bleaching event in history of the Great Barrier Reef. Since being designated in 1981 as a World

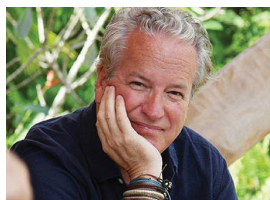
Heritage Site- invaluable for its ecological, cultural, economic or natural beauty- it has lost more than half of its living coral. This must not continue.

In fact, coral is the only living thing on Earth that is visible from outer space. But if we don't take action against what is happening, it will be like many other dead zones we are creating. That is why supporting organizations like Greenpeace is vital. We must join in the fight to stop the coal industry from its aspirations not only in Australia but elsewhere. The causes of climate change and our global warming are the drilling, extraction and unpredictable dangers and accidents of transporting fossil fuels. The noxious gases this kind of energy production releases are what is heating up our planet. They are not only killing our coral reefs, but also polluting everything else we depend on: air, water, soil, food. The question is: How will you help to stop the expansion of fossil fuel production, and the lobbyists, industrialists, and politicians who support it? If we are to live better, healthier lives on a planet where we don't risk our oceans and land masses from further harm, then the choice is clear. Reject fossil fuels and promote renewables: solar, wind, geo-thermal. Promote energy that safeguards us, protects all living things and work with those organizations that want to do the same.

Elaine Peters for the Green Sanctuary Committee

THE GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE OF
UUCSR AND FOOD & WATER WATCH
present film

THE HUDSON: A RIVER AT RISK
WITH GUEST JON BOWERMASTER, FILMMAKER



Tuesday, June 13
7:00 PM, Social Hall

FREE TO ALL
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

This is a documentary film series, a composite of how the Hudson River in New York has become a toxic legacy, describing why the river has been degraded. It explains the negative effects on the surrounding population and environment, and what should be done to protect the Hudson River.

REPURPOSING. RECYCLING. REBUILDING.

New and gently used bath towels may still be donated in the box by the cloak room until May 19. They are being donated to the Mary Brennan Inn, which is part of the Interfaith Nutrition Network.

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see UUCSR.org for additional details on all programs. See LIACUU.org for other area congregations.

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

10:30 AM	Overeaters Anonymous	Veatch Ballroom
4-7:15 PM	Personal Meditation	Worship Room
6:30 PM	Nar-ANON Meeting	Chapel, RE Room 19
6:30 PM	NAMI Family to Family Classes	RE Room 15
7:30 PM	GS FILM - BRINGING IT HOME	Social Hall
7:30 PM	SJC Monthly Committee Meeting	Art Gallery

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

12:00 PM	WG - Women Talk Daytime	Art Gallery
1:00 PM	ME Bridge Group	Veatch Ballroom
4-7:15 PM	Personal Meditation	Worship Room
6:00 PM	Leukemia/Lymphoma Soc.	RE Room 16
7:00 PM	Climate Justice Taskforce	Art Gallery
7:00 PM	NAMI Faith Net Presentation	Social Hall
7:30 PM	Inisfada-Zen Sitting Med.	Ballroom, Terrace
8:00 PM	Greysheeteer	RE Room 17

Thursday, May 18, 2017

9:30 AM	Yoga	Art Gallery
10:30 AM	AA Meeting	Room 206, 207
7:00 PM	Green Sanctuary Meeting	Staff Lunchroom
7:00 PM	Bereavement Support Grp	Veatch Terrace Rm
7:30 PM	Committee on Ministry	RE Room 19

Friday, May 19, 2017

10:15 AM	Tai Chi/Qi Gong	Art Gallery
1:00 PM	ME Bridge Lessons & Game	Ballroom, Terrace
7:00 PM	Soulful Small Group	RE Room 15
7:00 PM	Coming of Age Retreat	RE Room 19
7:30 PM	Concert for Refugee Families featuring Syrian Singer, GAIDA!	Main Building
7:30 PM	WG - Book Series	Art Gallery

Saturday, May 20, 2017

8:30 AM	OCIO Selection Task Force	Veatch House
9:00 AM	SJC Inn Cooking - Saturday	Main Kitchen
9:00 AM	Love & Stitches Craft Group	RE Room 15
10:00 AM	Quilting	Room 204, 205
11:00 AM	Yoga	Social Hall
11:00 AM	Figuresque Workshop	Art Gallery
5:00 PM	Dramatic Readings	Veatch Ballroom
5:00 PM	Ethical Eating PREP	Veatch Conf. Rm
6:00 PM	Spring Fling Dinner & Dance	Social Hall

Sunday, May 21, 2017

8:30 AM	Bridging Service Rehearsal	Worship Room
9:00 AM	Great Books-Short Story Omnibus	RE Room 4
9:00 AM	Worship Committee Meeting	Bride's Room
9:00 AM	SJC MH Monthly Meeting	Veatch Conf. Room
9:00 AM	Member Resource Committee	Veatch Library
10:00 AM	Young People's Choir Rehearsal	Choir Rehrsl Rm
11:00 AM	Worship Service	Worship Room
12:00 PM	Bridging Picnic	Main Building
12:30 PM	Love & Stitches Craft Grp	RE Room 15
1:00 PM	SJC Ethical Eating Cooking	Veatch Conf. Rm

1:00 PM	3rd Sunday SGM Meeting	Bride's Room
1:00 PM	Adoption Triad Ministry	RE Room 14
1:30 PM	75th Anniversary Walk in the Woods Pond	

Monday, May 22, 2017

4-7:15 PM	Personal Meditation	Worship Room
6:30 PM	Greysheeters	RE Room 17
7:30 PM	Interim Minister's Transition Team	Bride's Rm
7:30 PM	Publicity and Promotions Mtng	Art Gallery

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

10:30 AM	Overeaters Anonymous	Veatch Ballroom
5:30 PM	Executive Committee Mtng	Veatch Library
6:30 PM	Nar-ANON Meeting	RE Room 19
6:30 PM	NAMI Family to Family Classes	RE Room 15
6:30 PM	Together to End Solitary	Art Gallery
7:00 PM	4th Tuesday SGM Meeting	Veatch Terrace Rm
7:30 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting	Veatch Ballroom

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

1:00 PM	Virtual Senior Center	Art Gallery
1:00 PM	ME Bridge Group	Veatch Ballroom
4-7:15 PM	Personal Meditation	Worship Room
6:00 PM	Student Activity Fund Wrkshp	Art Gallery
6:30 PM	Investment Committee	Veatch Conf. Room
7:00 PM	NAMI Family Support Group	RE Room 15
7:30 PM	Inisfada-Zen Sitting Meditation	Ballroom, Terr.
8:00 PM	Greysheeteer - Wednesday	RE Room 17

Thursday, May 25, 2017

9:30 AM	Yoga	Art Gallery
10:30 AM	AA Meeting	Room 206, 207
3:15 PM	Housing Board Subsidy	Office Conf. Room
4-7:15 PM	Personal Meditation	Worship Room
7:00 PM	NAMI Relatives Support Group	RE Room 17
7:00 PM	Bereavement Support Group	Veatch Terrace Rm
7:30 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting	Veatch Ballroom

Friday, May 26, 2017

4-7:15 PM	Personal Meditation	Worship Room
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Saturday, May 27, 2017

10:00 AM	Quilting	Room 204, 205
11:00 AM	Yoga	Art Gallery

Sunday, May 28, 2017

10:00 AM	Bagel Breakfast	Social Hall
10:00 AM	Music Quartet Rehearsal	Worship Room
11:00 AM	Worship Service	Worship Room
12:00 PM	UU Cafe	Social Hall

Monday, May 29, 2017

8:00 AM	BUILDING CLOSED-Memorial Day Holiday	
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Tuesday, May 30, 2017

10:30 AM	Overeaters Anonymous	Veatch Ballroom
4-7:15 PM	Personal Meditation	Worship Room
6:30 PM	BOT - Agenda Planning	Veatch Library
6:30 PM	Nar-ANON Meeting	RE Room 19

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see UUCSR.org for additional details on all programs. See LIACUU.org for other area congregations.

6:30 PM NAMI Family to Family Classes RE Room 15

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

1:00 PM ME Bridge Group Veatch Ballroom
4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
7:00 PM NAMI Family Support Grp RE Room 15
7:30 PM Inisfada-Zen Sitting Med. Veatch Ballrm, Terr.
8:00 PM Greysheetter - Wednesday RE Room 17

Thursday, June 01, 2017

9:30 AM Yoga Art Gallery
9:30 AM SJC INN Cooking Main Kitchen
10:00 AM SJC Family to Family Class RE Room 15
10:30 AM AA Meeting Room 206, 207
4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
7:00 PM Bereavement Support Grp Veatch Terrace Rm

Friday, June 02, 2017

10:15 AM Tai Chi/Qi Gong Art Gallery
1:00 PM ME Bridge Lessons & Game Veatch Ballrm, Terr.
4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
7:00 PM MH Film Buried Above Ground Social Hall

Saturday, June 03, 2017

8:00 AM Volunteer Opportunity, Rebuilding Together LI, Contact Claire Deroche
8:30 AM COA Rehearsal Art Gallery, Worship Room
10:00 AM Quilting Room 204, 205
11:00 AM Yoga Social Hall
6:00 PM COA Family Service Worship Room
7:00 PM COA Party Veatch House

Sunday, June 04, 2017

8:30 AM COA Breakfast Art Gallery
8:30 AM COA Rehearsal Worship Room
8:45 AM WG Board Meeting Veatch Conf. Rm
10:00 AM Bagel Breakfast Social Hall
11:00 AM Worship Service Worship Room
12:00 PM COA Reception Main Lobby Lawn
12:30 PM Congregational Annual Brunch Social Hall
2:00 PM Congregational Annual Meeting Worship Room

Monday, June 05, 2017

4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
6:30 PM Greysheetters RE Room 17
10:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous Veatch Ballroom
4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
5:30 PM Veatch BOG Meeting Gallery, Veatch Terr.
6:30 PM Nar-ANON Meeting RE Room 19
6:30 PM SJC NAMI Family to Family Classes RE Room 15
7:30 PM RE Committee Meeting Veatch Conf. Room

Wednesday, June 07, 2017

12:00 PM WG - Women Talk Daytime Social Hall
1:00 PM ME Bridge Group Veatch Ballroom
4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
7:00 PM SRI Committee Meeting Veatch Conf. Room
7:30 PM Membership Meeting Art Gallery

May 16, 2017

7:30 PM Inisfada-Zen Sitting Med. Veatch Ballrm, Terr.
8:00 PM Greysheetter - Wednesday RE Room 17

Thursday, June 08, 2017

9:30 AM Yoga Art Gallery
10:00 AM SJC Family to Family Class RE Room 15
10:30 AM AA Meeting Room 206, 207
4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
7:00 PM Bereavement Support Group Veatch Terrace Rm
7:30 PM Committee on Ministry RE Room 19

Friday, June 09, 2017

10:15 AM Tai Chi/Qi Gong Veatch Ballroom
1:00 PM ME Bridge Lessons & Game Veatch Ballrm, Terr.
6:30 PM Soulful Sundown Main Building

Saturday, June 10, 2017

9:00 AM Adult Programs Committee Retreat RE Room 15
10:00 AM Quilting Room 204, 205
11:00 AM Yoga Art Gallery
7:00 PM RE Volunteer Year End Dinner Veatch House

Sunday, June 11, 2017

8:30 AM 2nd Sunday SGM Office Conference Room
9:00 AM Worship Committee Meeting Bride's Room
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal Worship Room
10:00 AM Bagel Breakfast Social Hall
10:00 AM General Assembly Meetup Art Gallery
11:00 AM Worship Service Worship Room
12:00 PM UU Cafe Social Hall
12:30 PM WG Annual Meeting Luncheon Veatch House
12:30 PM Caring Committee Meeting Office Conf. Room
12:30 PM Love & Stitches Craft Group RE Room 15
1:00 PM Artist's Reception Art Gallery
1:00 PM 1st Sunday SGM Meeting Bride's Room

Monday, June 12, 2017

1:30 PM Shelter Rock Forum Meeting Bride's Room
4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
6:30 PM Greysheetters RE Room 17
7:30 PM Program Council Meeting Veatch Ballroom
7:30 PM Building & Grounds Meeting Office Conf. Room

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

10:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous Veatch Ballroom
4:00 PM Art Committee Meeting Art Gallery
4-7:15 PM Personal Meditation Worship Room
5:30 PM Executive Committee Mtng Veatch Library
6:00 PM Caring Committee Meeting Art Gallery
6:30 PM Nar-ANON Meeting RE Room 19
6:30 PM SJC NAMI Family to Family Classes RE Room 15
7:00 PM GS Jon Bowermaster - Film - The Hudson...a River at Risk Social Hall
7:30 PM Board of Trustees Meeting Veatch Ballroom
7:30 PM Housing Board Meeting Veatch Library

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

1:00 PM Generation Rx Social Hall

Minister for Pastoral Care:

Rev. Jennifer L. Brower (jbrower@uucsr.org)

Minister of Lifespan Religious Education:

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

Interim Senior Minister:

Rev. Ned Wight (nwight@uucsr.org)

Congregation Operations Administrator:

Adam Barshak (abarshak@uucsr.org)

Veatch Executive Director:

Joan Minieri (joan@veatch.org)

Music Director:

Stephen Michael Smith (ssmith@uucsr.org)

Membership & Volunteer Coordinator:

Ben Bortin (bbortin@uucsr.org)

Religious Education Coordinator:

Jeanne Nametz (jnametz@uucsr.org)

Youth & Young Adult Program Coordinator:

India Harris (iharris@uucsr.org)

Social Justice Coordinator:

Claire Deroche (cderoche@uucsr.org)

Ministerial Intern:

Oscar Sinclair (osinclair@uucsr.org)

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
 Edwin Frank Vic Weit
 Tara Miner Latifa Woodhouse

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Next Quest: Thursday, June 6, 2017 | Deadline for Content: Tuesday, June 1, 2017

BENEFIT CONCERT FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES

Featuring renowned
 Syrian singer
GAIDA

Offer hope to
 those fleeing war
 and violence!!

100% of proceeds from
 the concert will go to
 Catholic Charities Refugee
 Resettlement Services and
 Church World Service to
 support newly arrived
 Syrian, Afghan and Iraqi
 refugee families on LI
 and in NJ.

**Friday
 May 19
 7:30 PM**

**Tickets online:
 uucsr.org/GAIDA
 or call 516.472.2960**

**\$20 General Admission
 \$10 Under 18
 \$25 Tickets at the Door**



BURIED ABOVE GROUND

What would you do if the
 worst thing that ever
 happened to you felt
 like it kept happening?

Film exploring this
 question and the
 road to recovery
 through the eyes of
 three post-traumatic
 stress disorder (PTSD)
 survivors over six years.



**Friday, June 2
 7:00 PM**

**Film Screening and Skyped
 Discussion with
 Director Ben Salkow**

\$5 Suggested Donation

Hosted by UUCSR
 Mental-Health Sub-
 Committee, Social
 Justice Committee
 and NAMI Queens/
 Nassau