

Unitarian Universalist Society: East

Member of the Clara Barton District of the Unitarian Universalist Association



Unitarian Universalist Society: East is a welcoming, open-minded, spiritual community seeking truth and meaning in its many forms. We share responsibility for building a more equitable, peaceful, and sustainable world.

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Sunday Services Schedule

May Ministry Theme: Compassion

Services at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

May 6: "The Weight of so Much Inhumanity."

This title comes from the Jewish theologian Abraham Joshua Heschel, who lamented the failure of prophetic witness and action among the Abrahamic faiths in the 20th century. Rev. Josh reports on the rebirth of Martin Luther King's "Poor Peoples' Campaign" in 2018. This sermon was purchased by Stan and Sue McMillen at the 2017 UUS:E Goods and Services Auction.

Coordinator: Rev. Josh Pawelek

May 13: "Flower Communion."

Multigenerational Worship. Through wonderful music and our annual flower communion, we will celebrate our beloved multigenerational community. Please bring a flower or flowers to share!

Coordinator: Mary Bopp, Gina Campellone, Rev. Josh Pawelek

May 20: "What Opens Your Heart?"

Our ministry theme for May is compassion. This morning Rev. Josh explores the sources of compassion in our lives.

Coordinator: Rev. Josh Pawelek

Note: A salad potluck will follow the 11:00 service. Our Annual Meeting begins at 1:00 PM

May 27: "Women and Poetry."

We will celebrate the voices of women poets we know and lament the voices of women poets lost to centuries of bias against women in all of the arts. We'll share poems by and reflections about such writers as the great 19th-century poet Emily Dickinson and Mary Oliver, the most widely read contemporary poet in the country.

Coordinator: Marsha Howland

June 3: "God's Personalities."

Modern Biblical scholars have long recognized that the Good Book's main protagonist, God, has a multitude of personalities. Rev. Josh wrestles with Jack Miles' Pulitzer Prize winning God: A Biography. This morning's sermon was purchased by Fred and Phil Sawyer at the 2017 UUS:E Goods and Services auction.

Coordinator: Rev. Josh Pawelek

2017-2018 Ministry Themes

July	Courage
August	Identity
September	Vision
October	Atonement
November	Faith
December	Hope
January	Justice
February	Brokenness
March	Generosity
April	Transcendence
May	Compassion
June	Restlessness



Sunday Service Flowers

The signup sheet for flowers is in a binder in Annie's office. Please make sure you check off the box, indicating whether you want to take the flowers back home with you or have them donated. The contact person for delivering donated flowers is Cyndi Krupa, 860-986-1957, cyndikrupa@sbcglobal.net



Recorded Services Available

Many of the Sunday Services at UUS:E run on the three community access channels (Cox in Manchester, Community Voice Channel in Bolton, and Charter Communications in Windham). The DVDs are available at UUS:E, and you can sign out the programs you were unable to see. Audio CDs are available one week after each service, and as a download from Jane, our sexton, if you provide a flash drive (USB port).

Community Outreach Ministry

Charitable Giving for May 2018

As always, thank you for your generosity.

"We do not gather our gifts only for ourselves, but to share with the larger community."

Continuing our practice of sharing our gifts with the community beyond our walls, the recipient of fifty percent of our Sunday plate collections for the month of May will be split between **MARC Inc.** and **MARCH Inc.**

MARC Inc. of Manchester is an organization which supports people with disabilities, empowering them to live, work, and enjoy all their community has to offer. Through the provision of many support services, their clients become able to live their lives to the fullest according to their individual goals and dreams.

MARCH Inc. serves people with developmental disabilities in greater Manchester, and supports their families in a number of ways. It has a respite program that gives youth the chance to socialize together while giving their families a break

Please contact Louisa Graver at lgraver163@gmail.com, David Lacoss, or Nancy Madar at nancymadar@hotmail.com.

Checks made out to UUS:E will be treated as follows: If the memo line:

- ✓ is blank or "pledge" is written, all will go toward your pledge.
- ✓ has "COM" or the name of the charity is on the memo line, all will go to the charity.
- ✓ has "1/2 pledge, 1/2 COM," it will be divided equally.

2017-2018 COM Recipients

July	Three area food banks (Manchester, Vernon, East Hartford)
August	Kado Pet Foundation and STRIVE
September	KIDSAFE CT
October	Free at Last Players
November	Manchester Senior, Adult and Family Services
December	Three area shelters McKinney Men's Shelter (Hartford), East Hartford Community Shelter, Cornerstone Shelter (Rockville)
January	Moral Monday CT
February	Operation Fuel
March	Rebuilding Together (Manchester) and Communitas
April	CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence and Covenant to Care for Children
May	MARC and MARCH, Inc
June	Mary's Place and True Colors

The Minister's Column: Hallelujah!

Dear Ones:

At the UUS:E annual meeting on May 20 at 1:00, the Policy Board will ask the congregation to approve the following vision statement:

Unitarian Universalist Society: East will be home to a spiritually alive, richly diverse and growing congregation. We will send forth energy, spirit and strength into our beloved communities. We will love, be present to suffering, comfort, heal, bear witness to oppression, and boldly work toward social and environmental justice.

I want to express my gratitude to Anne Carr, Tammy Stolzman, Rhona Cohen and David Garnes who crafted the original drafts of this statement. Moreover, I want to express my gratitude to our UUS:E leadership team, who met in September for a day of visioning with UUA consultant, Jacki Shanti.

I also want to remind all of us that at the heart of our visioning process was a commitment to countering white supremacy within Unitarian Universalism. For a brief reminder of the way white supremacy operates within Unitarian Universalism, please see my sermon from May 7, 2017, "White Supremacy Teach-In" at <http://uuse.org/white-supremacy-teach-in/>. That sermon pointed out how the voices of People of Color remain largely on the margins of Unitarian Universalist institutional life. After I preached that sermon, someone asked about our visioning process. "If a group of mostly white people crafts a vision for the future of our mostly white congregation, and if the voices of People of Color remain on the margins of, or are absent from, that process, then what prevents our vision statement from perpetuating white supremacy?" It was a fabulous question.

In response, we invited five People of Color leaders from Hartford and Manchester to speak to our UUS:E leadership team about their vision for the region, and the role they feel UUS:E can play in achieving that vision. We crafted our proposed vision statement in response to the voices of People of Color leaders. We "centered" People of Color voices.

I love the finished product. I love it not only because we used an explicitly anti-racist process to create it; but also because it says "we will love." This language came from Pamela Moore Selders, a founder of Moral Monday CT and a Black Lives Matter leader. On the evening before our visioning session, she challenged us to first and foremost love ourselves—to take pride in ourselves, to care about each other, to celebrate each other. She's right. If we envision ourselves bringing love into the wider community, we need to begin by cultivating a deep and profound love among ourselves. That's a vision that makes my heart sing!

Spiritually alive, richly diverse and growing? That, too, is a vision that makes my heart sing! There are actions we can take to achieve this vision.

Sending forth energy, spirit and strength into our beloved communities? That's a vision that makes my heart sing! There are actions we can take to achieve this vision.

We will love, be present to suffering, comfort, heal, bear witness to oppression, and boldly work toward social and environmental justice. That's a vision that makes my heart sing! There are actions we can take to achieve this vision.

I hope your heart sings too!

With love,
--Rev. Josh

Josh



Enter, rejoice, and come in!

A Religious Education message from Gina

Dear Friends,

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Yes, you read that correctly, and no, I'm obviously not talking about Christmas. It's spring, and that's when we begin recruiting Religious Education volunteers for the coming school year. This annual undertaking is something that fills some of my DRE colleagues with dread, as it can be a real challenge to find the number of volunteers needed to offer a quality RE program. However, the culture of our congregation has grown (and continues to grow) into one that recognizes the importance of a strong and thriving Religious Education program, and our members are generous in sharing their time and talents as RE volunteers. Our children are blessed to be growing up in a community that supports and celebrates the development of youth in spirit, mind, and body. I suspect that many of the RE volunteers might say they feel equally blessed to be part of this learning community.

So, I'll say it again. It's the most wonderful time of the year! Over the next month someone may ask you to join our team of RE volunteers. Please consider saying yes. If you're still not convinced, I hope the following list of reasons to volunteer in RE will help persuade you to give it a try.

Top Ten Reasons to Volunteer in RE

10. Grow in your faith. RE is a place where everyone has the opportunity to learn about world religions, ask big questions, gain a deeper understanding of UU Principles, search for truth and meaning, and explore ways to share the love and grace of Unitarian Universalism with the wider world.

9. Meet new people. Or strengthen your connections with other members of the UUS:E community. Our team of volunteers is made up of folks of all ages, including young adults, parents, and elders. Volunteering in RE is a great way to be a part of a thriving, joyful, and connected multigenerational community.

8. Share your gifts. Are you passionate about working for social justice? Perhaps you love drumming, singing, painting, or cooking? Everyone has something special to share. (And if you're not

sure what your "something special" is, come talk to me. We'll figure it out!)

7. Share your story. We each have a unique and important story to tell. Your stories are a gift to our children and youth. Please come share them!

6. Have fun. Children learn through play, so we do a lot of playing in RE. And play is essential to the health and wellbeing of folks of all ages!

5. Attend Sunday services. RE volunteers are asked to commit to just one or two Sundays per month. That means you will still have the opportunity to attend worship services on a regular basis.

4. Support one of our largest ministries. That's right, our Religious Education program serves approximately 75 children and youth, making it one of UUS:E's largest ministries. It's important work, and we can't do it without your help!

3. Be appreciated. RE volunteers are treated to a special breakfast in the fall, an appreciation dinner in the spring, recognition on RE Sunday, and some very cool swag. Our volunteer appreciation gifts are awesome—just like our volunteers!

2. Be part of a well-organized program. Volunteers attend an orientation session in September and are provided with a complete curriculum. All materials are obtained and prepared in advance. You'll receive weekly email updates with reminders and resources.

1. Be a UU Super Hero. Yes, it's true. As an RE volunteer you will help nurture and grow future generations of Unitarian Universalists. Your work today will help insure a strong and thriving UU faith for all the days to come. That makes you a Super Hero in my book!

I hope you will consider volunteering in RE for the 2018-2019 school year.

Be well and be loved,
Gina



The Policy Board's Column

A Message from Monica van Beusekom

When I was a child visiting my paternal grandparents, we always spent a lot of time looking at the family albums. These albums not only held family photos—some from as far back as the late 1800s—but also the postcards the family had received from friends who had traveled, clippings from newspapers, and commemorative cards that had been printed on the occasion of a family member's birth, wedding, or death. I am perhaps not alone in having been introduced to the significance of record-keeping through historical family documents. Keeping records and knowing one's history can shape one's identity and help one feel rooted in place and time.

As an adult I've come to appreciate record-keeping for more practical reasons: as a way to simplify my life. If I collect all those tax documents in one place all year long, it will be so much easier to file my taxes in April. And after quite a few years of experience, I finally have a fairly good system in place!

Similarly, at UUS:E, the work of the congregation and its committees is so much easier when there are records and guides for doing the routine and not-so-routine tasks. In organizations like ours that rely heavily on the time and talent of volunteers, it is especially important that knowledge and practices are recorded and shared so that new volunteers can build on the work of their predecessors. And so over time many of our committees have created useful resources such as the Sunday Services manual and stewardship training materials. Keeping these resources and a wide-range of other electronic and paper documents organized and up-to-date is a challenge of its own.

This year, the Policy Board has been working on creating a document retention policy. This policy, which we hope to finalize soon, delineates what documentation we keep, where it should be kept, and for how long. Identifying all the different kinds of documents we have and creating a policy on what to keep seemed at first a daunting process—but luckily we are not the first congregation to have taken on this task and we found that other denominations had shared their templates online.

Having a policy is a significant first step. Implementing it on a regular basis will be equally important.

When programs and systems work smoothly in our congregation, the congregation has the ability to engage with more of the things we seek in a spiritual community—spiritual growth, pastoral care, social justice—all those things that help us feel connected, rooted, and purposeful in our lives.

Monica van Beusekom

Member-at-large

Leadership Opportunities

Do you have a passion to communicate? Would you like to grow personally and spiritually through leadership? Can you imagine experiencing leadership as love? Leadership for many at UUS:E represents growth, love and moving our beloved community forward.

We are looking for leaders to head our program committees and for officers on our Policy Board.

The following positions are now or soon will be open.

Committees Under Program Council

Social Justice Co-Chair

Lead the Committee in its mission to encourage the broadest possible congregational participation in and financial support for social justice advocacy, service activities and social action, to advocate for, and educate the UUS:E community about, social and economic justice concerns, linking these with Unitarian Universalist principles, and to act as liaison to the UUSC* and interreligious social justice organizations.

*Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Stewardship Chair

Lead Committee meetings and delegate responsibilities to conduct the Annual Appeal and stewarding opportunities for new members throughout the year.

Pastoral Friends Chair

Pastoral Friends helps fulfill our church mission of a caring community. There is joy and fulfillment in generously giving time and caring for others. The Committee provides/facilitates direct services to UUS:E members and friends with short-term needs and refers members to organizations that provide longer-term services. The Committee sponsors/leads the Mental Health Ministry, the Elder Council, and the Circle Groups.

Membership Co-Chair

Lead the Membership Committee in administering programs that promote fellowship among members and friends of the Society, with a goal of strengthening membership and commitment.

Policy Board/Committees Under Policy Board

Vice President

Presides at Program Council (PC) meetings. The PC members are chairpersons of program-related standing committees. The VP acts in the place of the President during his/her absence and performs duties delegated by the President.

Treasurer

Leads the Finance Committee that provides annual budgets, administers the Endowment Fund, maintains financial records and policies and, as a member of the Policy Board, participates in policy making of the Society.

Personnel Chair

Presides at Personnel Committee meetings. The Committee develops and recommends personnel policies, including recruiting, hiring, and termination, employee evaluation, satisfaction and performance standards, annual salary levels and benefits.

NLDC Member (we need four members)

Recruit leaders, and develop and nurture leadership skills and experiences among UUS:E members and friends. Conduct workshops to train and support current leaders.

Denominational Affairs Chair

The Denominational Affairs Committee informs the congregation on UUA** and New England Region activities and programs, and encourages active participation. The Committee sponsors forums for members to discuss, initiate, and support resolutions in accordance with the Commission on Social Witness and those passed at UUA General Assembly.

** Unitarian Universalist Association

Please contact a member of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee if you are interested and please suggest someone you think should be considered. Thank you.

Nancy Schwartz, Peter Marotto, Rhona Cohen and Stan McMillen

Membership News



Greetings from the Membership Committee!

Welcomers Needed!

We could really use a few more people to greet members, friends and visitors at the welcome table on Sunday mornings. This job is fun and easy and **important**. If you can help out, please contact Jennifer Klee at jenduv@sbcglobal.net.

Refreshments

Have you picked a Sunday to provide snacks yet? The schedule is on the wall next to the kitchen serving window. All you need to do is **drop the goodies off**, the coffee team will serve them.

The Committee

Are you interested in joining our busy (and fun) committee? We'd love to have you! To learn more, talk to Jennifer Klee or Edie Lacey, co-chairs, or any committee member: Susan Barlow, Gail Crook, Lisa Drexler, Louisa Graver, Jackie Heintz, Kathy Lee, Betsy Nelson, and Wilda Wyse.

Intro to UU

Would you like to know more about Unitarian Universalism and Unitarian Universalist Society: East? Rev. Josh leads this seminar where you will learn more about the UU faith tradition, including a brief history and background of our theology and UUS:E. It provides a great opportunity to meet others, share our stories about what brings us together as UUs, and to find out how to get more involved in the life of our society. And it's required if you choose to become a member. We will have a class on Sunday, May 6, from 12:45 – 4:00 PM. Lunch will be provided and childcare is available upon request. RSVP to Annie at 860-646-5151 or uuse153@sbcglobal.net

New Member Sunday

We have a ceremony to welcome new members twice a year. The next one is on Sunday, June 3. RSVP to Annie Gentile in the UUS:E office at 860-646-5151. Contact Jennifer Klee with any questions (jenduv@sbcglobal.net). If you cannot attend one of these services but want to become an official member, you can "sign the book" at any time! Contact Rev. Josh to make arrangements.

Meet the Church

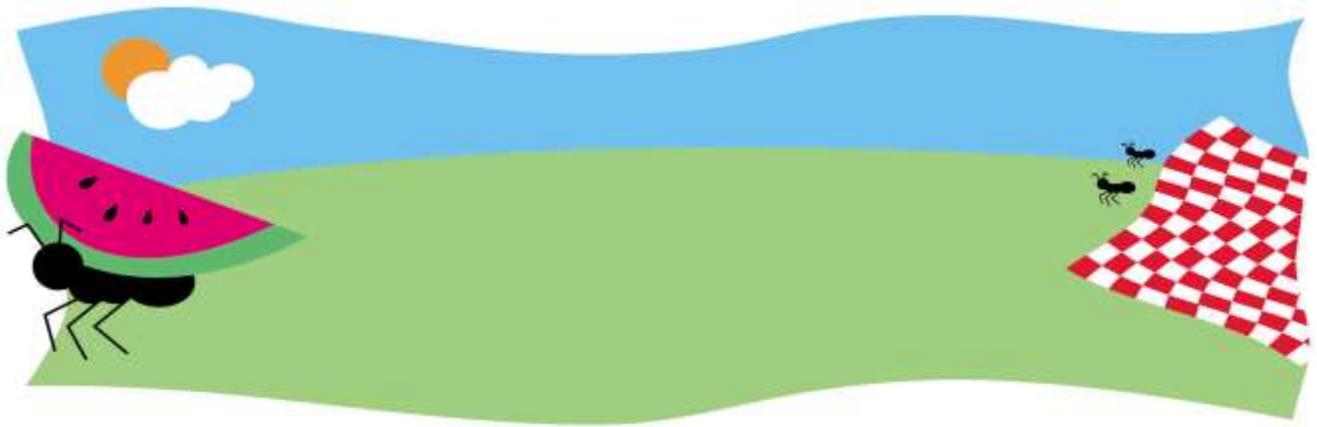
Visitors are invited to meet Rev. Josh for a brief overview of UUS:E, followed by a tour of the building and grounds. Meet in his office after each service. No RSVP required. Sunday, June 3.

Newcomer Socials

Join us on third Fridays for a friendly gathering for newcomers (both members and friends) and anyone who wants to meet newcomers. We'll share coffee, tea and dessert and good conversation! Bring a short poem or song lyric or anything that speaks to you to share with the group. Save the date for May 18 and June 15! Because we meet at someone's home, these are adult-only events. If you would like to host one of the socials, contact Jennifer Klee.

Summer Picnic

See the separate article in this newsletter



UUS:E Summer Potluck Picnic

Sunday, June 24, 2018

Northwest Park, Manchester

New! Summer Salad Taste-Off

Do you have a specialty that everyone wants the recipe for? Or a family favorite? We'll have a friendly competition to find the best summer dishes!

The Details:

Sunday, June 24, 2018

12:30 PM/immediately following the 11 o'clock service.

What to Bring:

Anything and everything you like to eat at a picnic! Please list the ingredients in your dish to help those with allergies.

Burgers and hot dogs (both meat and vegan) will be provided. There will be a tip jar to defray the cost, suggested donation: \$1 per item/\$3 max per family as you are able.

Be green! Bring your own plates, cups and flatware to use at the picnic that you can take back home and wash.

Can You Help?

It will take a team to pull this off! Here's a one-off, no long-term commitment opportunity! We'll need help with set-up, clean-up, grill masters, and keeping things running. Have an idea? Let us know. Please consider chipping in to do one small job!

Questions?

Contact Membership Committee Co-Chairs Edie Lacey (elacey1@cox.net) or Jennifer Klee (jenduv@sbcglobal.net)



Books, Classes and Discussions

brought to you by...

The Adult Religious Education Committee

(Youth are welcome at all workshops. Childcare is available with one week's notice.)



Community Drum Circle

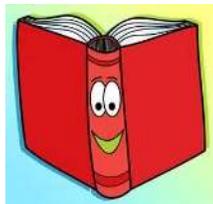
Third Tuesdays and Fourth Mondays
in the Sanctuary
7:00 – 8:30 PM

Note: 4th Monday in May is cancelled, due to Memorial Day.

Open to all levels of ability and experience. Facilitator Mary Ertel provides djembe drums and other hand instruments, and you may bring your own.

Drum with intentionality, send good vibes out into the world!!

Contact Paul Cocuzzo at pcocuzzo@gmail.com or 978-270-2056 with questions or to reserve a drum.



Book Lovers

We meet every second Tuesday from 3:30 to 5:00, downstairs in the chapel area. Everyone is welcome—including friends from outside UUS:E. Even if you haven't finished the book, you are invited to the discussion. Books are selected by participants, and we try to choose books that are old enough to be available in paperback, or at least in public libraries.

- May 8: **Hillbilly Elegy**, by J.D. Vance
- June 12 **The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper**, by Phaedra Patrick

For information: marlar@wordshard.com

UU Buddhists

First Tuesdays, Room 2

The Buddhist Group meets at 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month, for meditation, dharma, and discussion. The May ministry theme is "compassion." Contact Nancy Thompson nancythompson123@yahoo.com with questions.

Women's Sacred Singing Circle

Every Thursday from 7:00 – 9:00 PM, we will be singing in the sanctuary. All women and girls eight years and older are welcome to join our circle regardless of musical training or ability. Come when you are able, stay as long as you wish.



Sing, laugh, and be in community.

For more information, contact

Jane Osborn: janeosb3@gmail.com

Yoga News

Come enjoy yoga at UUS:E!

The current yoga session with Susan Barlow ends May 30, (no class on May 16), 11 AM – 12 noon. The current yoga session with Jessica De Carli ends June 4, (no class on May 28), 5:45-6:45 PM.

Come enjoy physical strengthening and emotional awareness. Bring a yoga mat or towel and wear comfortable clothes. All welcome, including beginners!

\$40 for the eight-week session or \$6 drop-in fee.

You can register with, and direct questions to:

- Jessica at jess.decarli@gmail.com
- Susan at SBarlow627@aol.com
- Or Annie at uuse153@sbcglobal.net

To read about their classes, visit [UUSE.org](http://uuse.org).

<http://uuse.org/religious-ed/adult/yoga-classes>

Books, Classes and Discussions

continued



Community Kirtan with Adam Bauer

Friday, May 11 at 7 PM

Adam Bauer, renowned international kirtan leader, has played bass with legendary leaders like Krishna Das, but also leads kirtans through India and across North America. Join us to experience his love of sacred sound and the joyful, heart-opening energy of the call and response music of kirtan. Bring your friends to dance, sing, or sit back and drink in the energy and music all around you.

Listen to Adam's music at <http://iamadambauer.com>.

A \$15 donation requested, but no one will be turned away. Chair seating is provided. Bring your own floor cushions if you want to sit on the floor in the front. Footwear is optional. Remember, kirtan is held in a scent-free space.

Charlie Braun returns June 8. For more, visit <http://www.charliebraun.com>.



Sacred Dance

The Sacred Dance Group at the Unitarian Universalist Society: East invites new participants to join this ancient tradition. All interested members and friends of UUS:E are welcome, and participation is free. No experience is necessary—just the desire to move to the spirit! (It's not necessary to attend every time the group meets.) If you are interested in exploring sacred dance, contact Christine Joyner at 860-983-6705.

Dates and times for meetings will be determined after receiving input from those who are interested, so please be sure to call Christine.

Sacred dance is movement with spiritual intention. The term is a modern one for an ancient practice of worshipping and expressing spiritual beliefs as a group. Women and men usually worshipped separately with drums and dances, often worshipping the different roles of their lives.

Join the Sacred Dance Group at UUS:E for a wonderful, modern variation on the ancient practice, and experience the expression of spirituality through movement and connection with others.

Walk with Me—Intergenerational Poetry Walks

Sunday, 5/6, 10:25 AM
(Inclement weather cancels)

Join us for an informal, congenial poetry session. We'll walk about one mile over paved, hilly terrain along a portion of the East Coast Greenway. Bring a Mary Oliver poem to share if you like, but please come even if you don't want to read aloud. All are welcome, including children. We'll gather in the Meetinghouse lobby at 10:25 AM and convoy to our destination. Contact Susan Barlow at 860-808-7103 with questions or any problem finding us. Contact: Susan Barlow, sbarlow627@aol.com.

Books, Classes and Discussions

continued

Revitalize Your Being with an Evening of Yoga and Satsang

Sunday, 5/20, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

This workshop begins with an explanation of the five pranas and yoga techniques that expand and purify their field. We will move into a holistic yoga flow to highlight each prana, leaving you feeling revitalized and aligned. We will close with an hour of Satsang: sharing spiritual teachings, the Upanishads, from teacher to students. These can involve stories, laughter, and teachings from yogic wisdom. Led by Yogrishi Vishvketu, a Himalayan Yoga Master, author and founder of Akhanda Yoga, www.akhandayoga.com & www.akhandayogaonline.com

Donations will be accepted for this workshop; no one will be turned away. Contacts: Marie Lorenzo, marie.lorenzo@att.net, Crystal Ross, kovaciny.ross@gmail.com

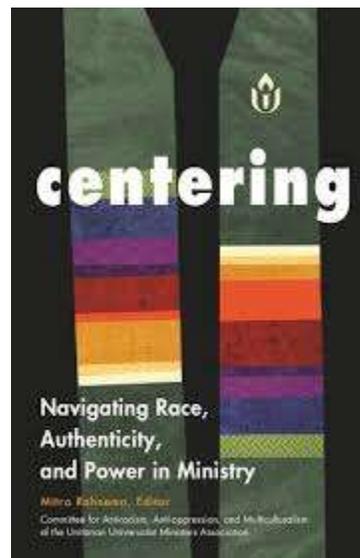
Giving Up on Our Democracy?

Sunday, 5/13, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

The conservative ascendancy and the Trump presidency have intensified grave concerns that our American democracy is in crisis. This round-table discussion will be based on Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt's book, *How Democracies Die* (2018), and brief articles and columns to be provided to those who sign up to join the conversation. Facilitated by Lauriston King. Please sign up with Annie Gentile at uuse153@sbcglobal.net to receive materials. Contact: Lorry King, KingL92@gmail.com.

Book Discussion...

of the second 2017-2018 UUA Common Read
Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity and Power in Ministry



Centering has been chosen as one of the Unitarian Universalist Association's "common reads" for the 2017-2018 congregational year. This book contains the stories, analyses, and insights of a number of Unitarian Universalist religious leaders of color as they explore how racial identity is made both visible and invisible in Unitarian Universalist communities. Sponsored by the Social Justice / Anti-Oppression Committee.

This book is available from the InSpirit, the bookstore of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Contact Rev. Josh for details on a discounted group purchase at revpawelek@gmail.com.

Tuesdays May 15 and 29, 7:00 to 8:30.

Green Sanctuary News

Ongoing Celebration of Mother Earth

Jenny Brown, co-founder of the Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary in New York will give a presentation on Saturday, June 2, 4-6 PM. There will be a vegan finger food potluck to share at 4:00 followed by the program. There will be more to come closer to the date. Circle your calendars.

Another Reminder: The Manchester Farmers Market on Spruce Street will be open for business every Wednesday evening from June 21 through October 4, from 5 to 8 PM. Local produce from local farmers.

Community Garden

Thanks to the leadership of Mary Lawrence, the Peas and Love Garden is blooming with plans to grow good green food. Mary sent a soil test to the UConn Ag station and it's a go. Eight people attended the March 25 meeting and 2 attendees were from outside UUS:E. Earth Day is every day at the Peas and Love Garden with weeding, planting and working with Mother Earth. All are welcome to join in.

Film

Let Peter Kalmus, atmospheric scientist, show you how to cut fossil fuel use and boost happiness. He and his family cut fossil fuel use 1/10th of the average American family while living in a typical California suburb. Watch for the show date of the documentary "Being the Change: Live Well & Spark a Climate Revolution," Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/253364089>.

There are also plans to show the documentary, **Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution** from Interfaith Light and Power.

Four SLC members attended the Buckland Hills showing of the movie, **Eating You Alive**. All agreed it was worth watching. It would have been better if it had more specifics relating to how "eating a plant-based diet" works to cure disease. Trailer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M8sGE5n-i1Q>

Fracking Waste Ban Result

Two SLC members spoke at the Manchester Board of Director's meeting on April 4th. The Board approved a resolution in support of the State Ban SB103 which has yet to pass. The Board recognized

Kat Dargan with a moment of silence for Kat and named the resolution for Kat Dargan. The Board determined not to seek an ordinance banning fracking in Manchester due to the inability to enforce it. Senator Cassano is supporting SB103. If the State doesn't pass a ban, the Town may revisit it.

Recycling

We can help our planet, and earn some money for UUS:E by recycling such items as cell phones/pagers & accessories, GPS & radar detectors, calculators, eBook readers, iPads, tablets, iPods, small digital/video cameras, as well inkjet cartridges (but not laser/toner cartridge). If an inkjet cartridge is leaking, please enclose it in a plastic bag. Deposit your items in the Planet Green box, located in the vestibule beside the water cooler. From there, Duffy Schade will send them to PlanetGreen which produces "highest quality" remanufactured toner and inkjet cartridges. UUS:E also receives a percentage from sales of these cartridges. So if you are low on ink, check <https://planetgreenrecycle.com/fundraising/>. If you have questions contact our office.

A Big Thank You to Desiree Holian-Borgnis

Desiree is taking over the Coffee Project that Kat Dargan coordinated. Desiree will now coordinate the project, maintain inventory and order supplies, including the Friendship Coffee for Coffee Hour. There is a sign-up sheet at the sales desk to assist with selling our fabulous goods on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Volunteers have signed up for May, June, and July. Last fiscal year the profit was \$1,146. The profit went to the operating costs of UUS:E.

Equal Exchange Products

Available in the meetinghouse lobby on the second Sunday of the month. They are organic and fair trade. If you would like to order a full case of Single-Serve Cups from Equal Exchange, contact the office at uuse153@sbcglobal.net. A case of six boxes (12 cups per box) is \$50. More information about Equal Exchange Products, click here. <http://uuse.org/community/social-justice-activities-and-concerns/social-justice/equalexchangeinterfaithstore>

Two Important Informational Sessions:

On Becoming a Sanctuary Congregation

With Alok Bhatt of the CT Immigrants Rights
Alliance

Tuesday, May 1 at 4:30 PM and again at 7:00 PM
At UUS:E, Main Meeting Room



UUS:E's Sanctuary Congregation Team is offering two identical information sessions on May 1st, one at 4:30 PM and the other at 7:00 PM.

Come, learn:

- Why is sanctuary necessary today?
- How and why does an immigrant make the decision to seek sanctuary?
- How does an immigrant obtain legal counsel?
- What is the experience of sanctuary like for the immigrant? For the congregation?
- What kinds of community support is available to congregations?
- How long does sanctuary typically last?

Alok Bhatt is a founding member of CT Immigrants' Rights Alliance (CIRA). He will be joining UUS:E on May 1st to discuss the sanctuary movement in this current historical moment and how the process has gone for other immigrants and congregations here in Connecticut. He brings a perspective born out of years of advocacy for the rights of immigrants and humane immigration policies.

CIRA is a statewide alliance of immigrant, faith, labor, youth, community, business and ally organizations founded to improve the lives of Connecticut's diverse immigrant community.

Questions: Contact Rhona Cohen, Judi Durham or Rev. Josh Pawelek

UUS:E History Memorabilia Search

Next year will be our 50th Anniversary as a society. We are looking for any materials you may have saved over the years, such as photos, slides, documents, videos, etc., that we can use during our celebration of this milestone. Please search your attics and garages or any place where you might have these items.

Please contact Joe Madar if you have anything to contribute. The intent is to create a digital history of our society, by having items scanned and returned to you if you wish. Items that can't be digitized will be archived as well.

Thanks for your help.

Joe Madar 860-647-8559

SPECIAL THANKS from the Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee wants to thank all who helped and all who contributed to make this year's Annual Appeal a success. At this writing, we have \$409,089 pledged. In addition we have a Matching Gift Fund of \$11,050. We are especially grateful to those who increased their pledges by 5 - 10% enabling us to take full advantage of the matching gift incentive. With a few more pledges still to be received, we are convinced that the spirit of generosity at UUS:E is strong.

We especially want to thank the forty-four individuals who volunteered to be stewards and/or to host potluck events. This outreach is essential to our success. We are extremely appreciative for the continued commitment of these members.

If you have not yet made a pledge and wish to do so, please speak to one of the members of the Stewardship Committee, to Rev. Josh, or call the church office.

Louisa Graver, Sande Hartdagen, , Larry Lunden, Stan McMillen,, Phil Sawyer, and Debbie Starkel

Membership Coordinator

At the annual meeting on May 20, the Congregation will vote on the proposal to add a part time Membership Coordinator position to help grow our beloved community. We hope that this information will help answer some of your questions about the position.

Why do we need a Membership Coordinator?

After much analysis, evaluation, and research, the Growth Strategy Team determined that many of the tactics we identified to encourage growth here at UUS:E would require more time than that of a typical volunteer, and would be best completed by one dedicated person.

What would a Membership Coordinator do at UUS:E?

1. Promote a welcoming atmosphere by attending every Sunday Service by welcoming visitors and answering their questions and provide a central contact point, so every visitor will see the same welcoming person every time they visit.

One of the biggest issues we identified was that because there are different volunteers at the Welcome Table at each service and each week, visitors may not see the same face week after week. This lack of continuity does not lend itself to a welcoming atmosphere.

2. Be responsible for tracking visitors to UUS:E, following up with them via phone or email to answer any questions and encourage them to return, and share this information with the Membership Committee.

Currently, it is difficult to keep track of and follow up with visitors, as often they are not willing to give us personal information.

3. Work closely with the Membership Committee to ensure they have the support they need for Sunday morning welcome activities, including organizing Greeters, Hospitality volunteers & donations, and staffing the Welcome Table.

Currently, a great deal of time is spent on the committee getting Welcome Table and Greeter volunteers and prevents Membership Committee members from doing more robust tasks.

4. Get to know our members, and actively encourage them to engage in activities that help to meet both spiritual and social needs, such as Adult RE offerings, circle groups, small group ministry, committees, etc. Follow up with members who stop coming to services and events on a regular basis in an effort to retain our valuable members.

We have not had the capacity to enable volunteers to take on this important responsibility.

5. Work with the Minister and the Membership Committee to strengthen the Path to Membership (from Guest, to Visitor, to Member) and continually assess the effectiveness of the Membership Program utilizing data collection and analysis to improve it.

This ongoing assessment would help us modify our program to best meet member needs.

Why can't a Volunteer do what the Membership Coordinator would do?

The Growth Strategy Team and the Membership Committee are in agreement that these are some of the most critical tasks to be completed and are the most likely to bring a large return on investment. It is a large commitment of time for a volunteer; it is unlikely a volunteer would be willing to take on these important tasks with the ongoing commitment it would require.

Would a Membership Coordinator take over jobs from current volunteers at UUS:E?

The Membership Coordinator would support our volunteers in their roles so they can complete their chosen responsibilities, not take away from current volunteers.

More Questions?

Feel free to contact Michelle Spadaccini at michspad@comcast.net, Rob Stolzman at robandtammylee@yahoo.com, or Sylvia Ounpuu at ounpuu.adams@comcast.net. We want you to have as much information as possible to help you make your decision at the annual meeting on May 20.

Triple Sale

Saturday, May 19, 2018

Unitarian Universalist Society: East

Art Sale



The Gallery is Open! 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Displaying works in multiple mediums created by 15+ artists from UUS:E & Manchester Art Association. Each work an Artist's interpretation of a Van Gogh painting or an original work in Van Gogh's style. All art work is for sale!

Tag Sale



Garden and Outdoor Living Tag Sale

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Featuring items for the garden, tools, decorative flower pots, seasonal items, gently used household goods and summer sports items.

Plant Sale



The Plant Sale 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Offering a variety of PERENNIAL PLANTS (most plants \$5) from the gardens of members and friends. Plants will be labeled for sun, shade, etc. Master Gardeners will be available for consultation

Engaging Our Community

Imagine Main Street is BACK this year on the first Thursday of the month from May through September. The Growth Strategy Team is again partnering with Uniting for Safe Inclusive Community-Manchester to sponsor an informational booth and craft project for all ages.

Come join us for some fun at the FIRST Imagine Main Street of the season in downtown Manchester on Thursday, May 3 from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm! This month's theme is Young Artists Celebration—enjoy the arts and music of our youth! Bring your family and friends! Join us to meet people in our community and help us spread the good word about UUS:E. Look for us on the sidewalk near Katherine's Hair Design and Sean's Fine Jewelry between Brainard Place and Bisel Street. Hope to see you there!

Next month, Imagine Main Street is on Thursday, June 7, and the theme is Old Fashioned Stroll. More details to follow!

Did you know...

...UUS:E sells Stop & Shop gift cards after services on the first and third Sundays of the month? If you do your weekly grocery shopping at Stop & Shop, buying these cards is a GREAT way to support the church without it costing you a cent. Cards for \$50, \$100, or \$250 can be purchased at face value, and, in return, Stop & Shop gives the church 5 percent of the sales. This simple fundraiser has raised nearly \$2,000 each year for UUS:E, and with stores in Manchester, Vernon, South Windsor, East Hartford, and Glastonbury—it's likely a lot more folks from UUS:E are out there who can participate but just don't realize it. If you shop at Stop & Shop, please consider picking up one of these easy-to-use cards.



Emergency Preparedness #7

7

Storm Damage

Our newly authorized Emergency Operations Plan defines actions to be taken when a critical situation occurs on the property. This "all hazards plan" identifies twelve situations that could risk personal safety or property damage. Each emergency situation is designated as an annex with specific instructions. Let's now look at Annex E: Storm Damage.

DID YOU KNOW...

... procedures have been in place for years to learn of impending storms and alert members when the facilities are going to be closed? Do you know where to go to learn this information?

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IF THERE IS STORM DAMAGE?

The following procedures are to be followed:

1. Learn of the cancellation of services or meetings held at the building, and stay away during any storm.
2. After the storm is over, and if damage is found, contact the sexton if not already aware of this.
3. Early decisions will be made and announced to repair any damage.
4. Members will be notified when the building is again available for use.

That was easy! Use the time saved by staying home to review the Emergency Response Plan for other, more complicate actions for different hazards!

UUS:E GENERAL INFORMATION

UUS:E Office Schedule: Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Meetinghouse Office: 860-646-5151

Office Administrator: Annie Gentile email: uuse153@sbcglobal.net

Minister: Rev. Joshua Pawelek 860-652-8961, revpawelek@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 10 AM to 7 PM and Thursday 10 AM to 4 PM

President: Rob Stolzman, 907-268-1871, robandtammylee@yahoo.com

Director of Religious Education:

Gina Campellone, 860-875-8468, UUSE.REdir@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor: Paul Cocuzzo, 978-270-2056, uuse.nletter@sbcglobal.net

Website Coordinator: Carol Marion 860-643-8765, uuseweb@gmail.com

World Wide Web address: <http://uuse.org>

June Newsletter Deadline:

May 20

Unitarian Universalist Society: East
153 West Vernon Street
Manchester, CT 06042