Newsletter July 2018

# 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.

#### **Table of Contents**

Sunday Services Schedule	2
2018-2019 Ministry Themes	2
Sunday Service Flowers	2 2 3 3 3
Recorded Services Available	2
Community Outreach Ministry	3
Equal Exchange	3
2018-2019 COM Recipients	3
Stop & Shop	3
The Minister's Column: Hallelujah!	4
Enter, rejoice, and come in!	5
The Policy Board's Column	6 7
Donations Needed	
Get Connected! with UUS:E on the Web	7
Membership News	8
Pericles, Prince of Tyre	9
Engaging Our Community at Imagine Main Street	t,
Manchester	9
Calling all Canners!	9
UUS:E History Memorabilia Search	9
Books, Classes and Discussions	10
Community Drum Circle	10
Book Lovers	10
UU Buddhists	10
Women's Sacred Singing Circle	10
Yoga News	10
Living Your Faith!	11
Green Sanctuary News	11
A Datriotic Diagoural	11





# **Sunday Services Schedule**

July Ministry Theme: Witness Services at 10 AM Only

## July 1: "What to Witness."

Our ministry theme for July is witness. We witness on a variety of levels: the inner life, the present moment, the wider world, instances of oppression and justice-making, etc. This morning, Rev. Josh, cellist Leah Colof, and UUS:E Music Director Mary Bopp reflect on the different dimensions of spiritual witness.

### Coordinators: Mary Bopp, Rev. Josh Pawelek

## July 8: "Let Us All Sing!."

This is our annual Hymn Sing, where people choose their favorites from both the gray and teal hymnals, and we sing, sing, sing! If you choose to share a few words about why you chose a hymn, that's good but not required. Let our voices join together in joy, spirit, and community!

## **Coordinators:** Martha Larson and Mary Bopp

# July 15: "Twenty-five Years of Singing the Living Tradition."

The UU hymnal represents our denomination's best attempt to express the five sources of Unitarian Universalism and the seven principles in inclusive readings and music. It was a massive and groundbreaking task that has achieved the goal of connecting us with our past and bringing us into the future. This service will be a celebration of the hymnal and a recognition of the ways it brought about change.

**Speakers:** John Hankins, Gail Crook and Carol

Simpson

**Coordinator**: Beth Hankins

#### July 22: "Sharing Our Lives with Animals."

This service is about those special animals that we bring into our homes, who (quickly) become integrated into our lives.\* Several members of the congregation will share their thoughts about how this relationship enhances their lives.

**Speakers:** Carol Lowbeer and Leslie Greene

Coordinator: Nancy Madar

\*You are invited to share a photo of YOUR pet for a special slideshow Carol Lowbeer is creating for this service. Instructions: Just email a digital photo to Carol (<a href="mailto:carollowbeer@comcast.net">carollowbeer@comcast.net</a>) by July 15. Email should include: 1)photo 2)pet name 3)your name 4) put "FOR PET SERVICE" in email title

### July 29: "Making Space for Vulnerability."

Anna Hankins, a lifelong UU, shares spiritual lessons she has learned through her experience as a Peace Corps volunteer, social activist and recent nursing school graduate..

#### **Coordinator:**

## August 5: "What's Bubbling Up?"

Rev. Josh will discuss some of the ideas he imagines preaching about during the 2018-2019 congregational year. Be prepared: He may ask "what's bubbling up for you?"

Coordinator: Rev. Josh Pawelek

# 2018-2019 Ministry Themes

July	Witness
August	Freedom
September	Vision
October	Sanctuary
November	Memory
December	Mystery
January	Possibility
February	Trust
March	Journey
April	Wholeness
May	Curiosity
June	Beauty

# **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 July 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 July will be split among the food banks of Manchester, Vernon, and East Hartford.

Please contact Louisa Graver at <a href="mailto:lgraver163@gmail.com">lgraver163@gmail.com</a>, 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.



# **Equal Exchange**

Fair-trade, sustainably-grown, **organic coffee**, **tea**, **chocolate and now olive oil** are available for purchase in the lobby after each service on the **second Sunday of every month**. These products are good for the growers, good for the Earth, and offered at a very good price. And did you know that the coffee served on Sunday mornings and at other UUS:E events is also **Equal Exchange** brand? Sponsored by your Sustainable Living Committee.

# 2018-2019 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



# Stop & Shop

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. 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.

# The Minister's Column: Hallelujah!

Dear Ones:

As I prepare for my summer vacation and study leave, there's a part of me that's already very excited for the next congregational year. As many of you are aware, January 2019 marks UUS: E's 50th anniversary. The Policy Board, the Sunday Services Committee, the Endowment Committee, the Memorial Garden Trustees, and many others are beginning to think about how we can turn this anniversary into a meaningful, yearlong celebration. To that end, we need a team of people who can oversee work on the details. Who is interested in being part of the 50<sup>th</sup> **Anniversary Team?** It will be fun. Please let me or our President, Rob Stolzman, or our incoming Vice President, Kevin Holian-Borgnis, know if you would like to be part of this effort.

While it is always helpful to review the past, a milestone anniversary year really calls us to pause and look back, to honor our founders, to celebrate the generations. Thus, in the coming year, we will tells stories about what UUS:E was like in the different decades. We will definitely hold a big, multigenerational party. I am sure we will do some special fundraising. However, the most important thing we can reflect on is the nature of the impact UUS:E has had on us and on the larger community. What difference have we made in people's lives? What would we be like—and what would Manchester and Greater Hartford be like—if that dedicated group of individuals had not come together in the late 1960s to found a Unitarian Universalist congregation east of the Connecticut River?

If we can put words to the difference UUS:E has made in our lives and in the life of the larger community, then perhaps we can also imagine having an even greater impact over the next fifty years!

At very least, you can expect to be asked, in any number of ways, these kinds of questions: What has been the impact of UUS:E on your life? What do you remember most from the time you first started attending Sunday services at UUS:E, whether at 153 W. Vernon St. or one of the earlier locations? What do you wish for the future of UUS:E?

\*\*\*\*

Now, believe it or not, there is another milestone we may need to celebrate next year. April 2019 is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my ordination into the Unitarian Universalist Ministry. Thus, I expect I'll be doing a significant amount of reflecting on where I've been, how I've grown, and the impact I believe I have had on UUS:E, on our region, and on Unitarian Universalism. I look forward to this period of historical review.

\*\*\*

For now, summer is beginning. Please know I will be travelling with my family and my in-laws to Italy for two weeks in early July. I will continue my vacation and study leave when I return. I will be back at UUS:E to preach on August 5th. Then, as always, I will start slowly returning to regular ministry in mid-August. I wish for you a wonderful summer. I wish for you summer rest and relaxation. I wish for you quality time with family and friends. I wish for you adventures—whatever adventures you need to have. And I cannot wait to hear about them in September!

With love, --Rev. Josh





# Enter, rejoice, and come in!

A Religious Education message from Gina

Dear Friends,

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who was involved in our 2017-2018 Religious Education program. Children, parents, and volunteers, please know how very much you are appreciated and how blessed I feel to work with all of you. Your presence in this beloved community enriches my life every single day.

During the months of July and August, UUS:E shifts to summer mode, offering just one service at 10 AM. RE programming is held concurrently. The theme of our summer RE program is simple: fun and community. The summer provides an excellent opportunity for children to be with their UUS:E friends, deepening their connections with one another and having fun together. It's also a great way for children and adult volunteers to interact and learn from one another.

Each Sunday morning throughout the summer will feature a different activity, many of which are planned and facilitated by members of the RE Committee and other volunteers. The summer program is designed for children entering kindergarten and up. Nursery care will be provided for children 4 and under. Middle and high school youth will have the option of participating in the planned summer activities—the younger kids absolutely love when the "big kids" play too. They may also choose to assist in the nursery or attend the worship service. If you are available to volunteer one Sunday this summer, that would be great! Talk to me or our RE Assistant, Emmy Galbraith, to sign up.

Below is the schedule of Summer Sunday activities:

Jun 24... Outdoor Games (11 AM)

Jul 1...... Theater Games

July 8 .... Giant Bubbles

Jul 15.... Crafts for the Holiday Fair

Jul 22.... Friendship Bracelets

Jul 29.... Tee-shirt Decorating (Bring a tee-shirt!)

Aug 5 .... Games Galore

Aug 12.. Fairy Gardens

Aug 19.. Design a Scarecrow

Aug 26 .. Super Slime Sunday

Sep 2 .... Labor Day Weekend—No RE

Wishing you a great summer!

Be well & be loved, Gina



# The Policy Board's Column

A Message from Carol Marion, Chair of the Communications/Technology Committee

Research shows that great work (award-winning work) is produced when people focus on doing something others love. The Great Work Study showed that 88% of projects that earned awards began with an employee asking their own version of the question, "What difference could I make that other people would love?"

~ David Sturt and Todd Nordstrom, Forbes.com "What difference could I make that our community would love at Unitarian Universalist Society: East?" On May 20, we honored retiring committee leaders and welcomed our new leaders. Committees are the heartbeat of our church. Things need to happen, and committees are what make it all HAPPEN! A great way to get started learning how Unitarian Universalist Society: East gets things done is to join a committee.

The Communication/Technology Committee makes communications happen. From updating the website to making sure the mics work on Sunday morning, we help keep members informed and connected. It's a behind-the-scenes job

Our committee members are dedicated and love what they do. It is a team that does their jobs daily, weekly, and monthly. We check in once a month to keep things rolling and discuss new business. The following is a sample of what we do:

**Social Media and Publicity:** We have two Facebook pages. www.facebook.com/UUSEast for Events and

https://www.facebook.com/groups/5870665780288 06/ for sharing events and ideas with our UUS:E community. Join our Meetup group at http://www.meetup.com/Unitarian-Universalist-Society-East/. Event postings are also share on Twitter. Thank you, Jennifer Klee, for keeping the wider community informed.

**Dialog from Your Home:** Join in the dialog every week after Rev. Josh's sermons. Read the text, listen to the audio, ask questions, post your thoughts, and engage in interactive dialogs. Contact Annie in the office to get connected.

**E-Blasts:** Don't miss out with weekly updates and announcements about UUS:E happenings delivered to your inbox. Thank you, Susan Barlow, for keeping us all informed. Visit uuse.org and click Get Email Updates to receive e-blasts and the newsletter electronically.

**Newsletter:** Upcoming services, messages from Josh and Gina. Upcoming classes, events, announcements, and more all packaged into one monthly read. Thanks to Paul Cocuzzo and all who contribute for our monthly newsletter.

**Website:** Updated monthly, our website tells the world (and members) who we are, what we believe, and what is happening at UUS:E. Thanks to Carol Marion, website administrator. Visit us at uuse.org.

**Videos of Sermons:** Watch videos of sermons on Community Access Cable. See local listings for dates and times. Videos are also available on YouTube at

https://www.youtube.com/user/uuseweb/featured.
Thanks to Malcolm Barlow and Krissy Wild for videotaping and editing.

**Event Photos:** Special events are photographed for use in the newsletter, brochures, flyers, and to simply capture the vibrant life of UUS:E. Contact Carol Marion for access to photos, and thank Cressy Goodwin and Carol Lowbeer for their hard work.

**Technology:** Seework/Basecamp, sound system, projector, telephones, WIFI, copier, employee's computers, Breeze database, and more. Thank you to Joe Madar, Annie Gentile, Jane Osborn, and Carol Marion for helping to keep things running.

Thank you everyone who helps keep UUS:E communicating and informed.

## **Donations Needed**

Following is a list of items that are needed for the guest we will be welcoming into our Sanctuary in the near future:

- New or like new sleeper sofa or Sleeping futon
- Bed frame/mattress & box spring (new or like new), size = double
- New or like new sheets & blankets
- New pillows
- Towels (bath + hand towel), washcloth (new or new)
- Table or small desk with chair
- Dresser
- Clothing rack (to hang items with hangers)
- Lamps
- Nightstand
- Like new throw rugs, large area rug.
- Radio
- Night light and flashlight
- Lockable cabinet of some kind for personal items (including medications)
- Trash can/ waste basket
- Laundry basket
- Comfortable chair
- Bathroom/shower caddy for carrying supplies to/from bathroom
- Set of pots/pans for cooking
- Dishes, silverware, glasses, coffee cups, etc.

If you have any of these things that you would like to donate, please contact Susan Randolph (<u>Susan.M.Randolph@gmail.com</u>). Please, do not bring them to the church until you have been contacted.

Monetary donations are also appreciated. Checks may be sent to UUS:E with the word SANCTUARY in the memo line.

# Get Connected! with UUS:E on the Web

**UUS:E WEBSITE is** located at <a href="http://uuse.org">http://uuse.org</a>. Here you can find the latest news about our community and upcoming events, basic information about group and committee activities, Rev. Josh's sermons, and much more.

**DIALOGUE FROM HOME** is our ongoing virtual **talkback series** that continues online after each of Rev. Josh's sermons. Whether you want to read along, post your thoughts, and/or engage in dialogue about the topic, you are welcome to join this group. Request a password from Annie, the office administrator, to get access to the discussion. Email <a href="mailto:uuse153@sbcglobal.net">uuse153@sbcglobal.net</a>.

**FACEBOOK!** UUS:E has two Facebook pages where members and friends can share all things UUS:E. Our main site is

www.facebook.com/UUSEast. You can find out what's going on at UUS:E here. And please share our events on your own page to help spread the word about all of the great things we do!

We also have a second site, UUS:E Happenings, designed specifically to share ideas and events with others in the UUS:E community. Anyone can post here. Is your child going to be in a play? Are you performing a concert? Looking for people to hike with? Post it here! This is a closed group, request to join here:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/587066578028806/

**MEETUP:** We have started a Meetup page! Join our group! Find events, RSVP and more at:

http://www.meetup.com/Unitarian-Universalist-Society-East/. If you'd like to add an event to the Meetup site, contact Carol Marion at cmarion333@qmail.com.

**Rev. Josh** has his own website located at <a href="http://revjoshpawelek.org">http://revjoshpawelek.org</a>

Catch up on his latest writings, community work, and more. You can also follow Rev. Josh on

Twitter @revjoshpawelek, or connect with him at LinkedIn and Facebook.

**Weekly e-blast:** Contact Annie at <u>uuse153@sbcglobal.net</u> to be added to this weekly email of what's happening at UUS:E. Send submissions to SBarlow627@aol.com

# **Membership News Greetings from the Membership Committee!**



We'd like to share the thoughts of Alex Herpst, new member of UUS:E and the membership committee because he hits the nail on the head. If we love this place and all it gives us, we need to give a little too—

I joined this church to work towards progressing with a community and to build my own niche community within it. But I also feel obligated to help it in turn for helping me, by being a part of the church's foundation committees. My own niche will grow, my knowledge of the community, ability to work within a community and my surroundings will become just a bit better by my contribution. In life, I seek to do the most good and perceive the ripples of patient consistence in the projects I help. The membership committee meets once a month to work towards helping the community flourish. The tasks are simple enough, but when done meaningfully together, make everyone's life easier, the community stronger and more attractive to those seeking a community to join, not to mention a more comfortable place for all of us. A secondary benefit being that by growing we also increase our financial ability to help others and do the greatest good possible. Your participation in making this congregation more connected and familial is appreciated, and we hope you'll join us or one of the church's other foundation committees.

#### **Newcomer Socials**

Join us on Third Fridays this SUMMER, starting in July. We'll share coffee, tea and dessert and good conversation! 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.

#### **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 <a href="mailto:jenduv@sbcglobal.net">jenduv@sbcglobal.net</a>.

#### 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! Talk to or Edie Lacey, Chair, Jennifer Klee, Susan Barlow, Gail Crook, Louisa Graver, Jacquie Heintz, Kathy Lee, Betsy Nelson or Alex Herpst to learn more.

#### 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. We will have a class on Sundays, Sept. 16, Oct. 28, Jan. 20, March 3 and May 5 from 12:45-4 PM. Lunch will be provided, and childcare is available upon request. RSVP to Annie at 860-646-5151 or uuse153@sbcqlobal.net.

#### **New Member Sundays**

We have a ceremony to welcome new members a few times a year. For 2018-19 we will have the ceremony on Sunday, December 2, March 24, and June 2. There will be a reception and dress rehearsal on the Thursday evening before. RSVP to Annie Gentile in the UUS:E office at 860-646-5151. Contact Edie Lacey with any questions (edielacey1@gmail.com). 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 on September 30, November 11, February 24, April 14, and June 2.



Capital Classics Stages Shakespeare's

# **Pericles, Prince of Tyre**

When you think of legendary travelers, names like Odysseus, Bilbo Baggins, and even Indiana Jones come to mind. But the Capital Classics Theatre Company would also like to suggest Pericles, William Shakespeare's epic adventurer. Pericles matches wits with a murderous king, is pursued by an assassin, battles a shipwrecking storm, and fights knights for the hand of a beautiful princess.

And this July 12–29, we're staging **Pericles**, **Prince of Tyre** for the Greater Hartford Shakespeare Festival on the beautiful grounds of the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford. As Connecticut's oldest continuously running outdoor Shakespeare festival, Capital Classics has a reputation for making Shakespeare accessible and affordable. Bring your picnic baskets, your family, and your lawn chairs to experience Pericles, hear a local theatre professor give a pre-show talk, enjoy refreshments, and see teens from Hartford Stage break dance to Shakespeare.

Join us for a lovely evening of Shakespeare under the stars. More information at www.capitalclassics.org.

# **Engaging Our Community at Imagine Main Street, Manchester**

Join members of the Growth Strategy Team at Imagine Main Street in downtown Manchester on Thursday, July 5 from 5:30 – 8:00 PM for a Party in the Park! Meet people in our community and help us spread the word about UUS:E. Look for us in Center Memorial Park by Mary Cheney Library. Hope to see you there!

The next Imagine Main Street is on Thursday, August 2, and the theme is Imagine the Goodness. More details to follow!



# **Calling all Canners!**

We need Jams and Jellies! Now is a great time to harvest for preserves for the 2018 Holiday Fair. If the weather is too hot for canning, consider freezing the fruit or vegetable and canning it during cooler weather. We are also looking for Relishes, Salsas and Chutney. Remember that jars can be reused but must be thoroughly cleaned, including removing old labels. Please use new lids and bands. We also need used canning jars! Please leave them on the steel shelf in the janitor's closet next to the coatroom. Please contact Cory Clark at 860-597-9417 or <a href="mailto:clarkski107@hotmail.com">clarkski107@hotmail.com</a> or Joan Macomber at <a href="mailto:jmacomberjm@gmail.com">jmacomberjm@gmail.com</a> with any questions/concerns, and with a description and quantity of jars you will be donating.

# UUS:E 50<sup>TH</sup>

# **UUS:E History Memorabilia Search**

Next year will be our 50<sup>th</sup> 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

# **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.)



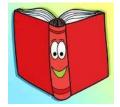
## **Community Drum Circle**

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

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 <a href="mailto:pcocuzzo@gmail.com">pcocuzzo@gmail.com</a> 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.

- July 10: The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper, by Phaedra Patrick
- August 14: **Prodigal Summer**, by Barbara Kingsolver
- September 11: **Unless**, by Carol Shields
- October 9: **Ethan Frome**, by Edith Wharton

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 July ministry theme is "witness." 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 is June 6 - August 1 (no class July 4), 11 AM - 12 noon. The current yoga session with Jessica De Carli is June 11 - July 30, 5:45-6:45 PM.

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

\$40 for the eight-week session or \$6 drop-in fee. You can register with, and direct questions to:

- Jessica at <u>jess.decarli@gmail.com</u>
- Susan at SBarlow627@aol.com, or
- Annie at uuse153@sbcglobal.net

To read about their classes, visit UUSE.org. <a href="http://uuse.org/religious-ed/adult/yoga-classes">http://uuse.org/religious-ed/adult/yoga-classes</a>

## **Books, Classes and Discussions**

continued

## **Living Your Faith!**

Living Your Faith (formerly known as Buiding [and Living!] Your Own Theology) is an intensive and interactive 12-session program in which participants define/discuss their faith and its impact on their lives, taking a very deliberate look at who they are, what they believe, and who they, individually and collectively, can become.

Program participants will be drawn from the three UU congregations in our area: The Universalist Church of West Hartford, the Unitarian Society of Hartford, and UUS:E. The group will be limited in size (like a Small Group) and meeting locations will rotate among the participating congregations.

Sessions will be held twice a month, September – March on Tuesdays, from 7:30 – 9:00 PM. If you would like to participate, please contact the facilitator, USH member Tom Gervais, at 860-558-3000 or tom.j.gervais@gmail.com.

### Program dates:

- August Potluck Gathering, date t/b/d
- Session 1 Introduction and goal setting (9/11/2018)
- Session 2 Spiritual Autobiographies (9/25/2018)
- Session 3 Your Sacred Life (10/9/2018)
- Session 4– Personal Practice (10/23/2018)
- Session 5 Soul and Religious Experience (11/6/2018)
- Session 6 Congregational Life (11/20/2018)
- December Potluck Gathering, date t/b/d
- Session 7 The Nature of God (1/8/2019)
- Session 8 Ethics (1/22/2019)
- Session 9 Repentance and Forgiveness (2/5/2019)
- Session 10 Putting Faith to Work in the World (2/19/2019)
- Session 11 So What? Imperatives of My Theology (3/5/2019)
- Session 12 The Manifesto (3/19/2019)
- Post-Program Potluck Gathering (date TBD)

Manifesto Services will be held at the three participating congregations on (dates TBD) at the Unitarian Society of Hartford, the Unitarian Universalist Society: East in Manchester, and the Universalist Church of West Hartford.

### **Green Sanctuary News**

Summer is here. Gardens are growing. Farmers' markets are open and will soon be brimming. The UUS:E Peas and Love community garden is looking great and producing tasty edibles, thanks to Mary Lawrence and other volunteers. Have you had a chance to taste the yummy 100% plant-based vegan foods that Mary has shared with us on Sunday mornings and at other events? Wander in the community garden, check out what's growing, taste something, pull a weed, and feel free to take some cuttings from the herb garden by the sidewalk which is lovingly cared for by Joan Macomber.

Save the date for Sunday, August 19, starting at 12:30 for a 100% plant-based vegan community potluck with discussion and games. Share the many delicious plant-based foods we can make, especially at the height of summer, when it's easy to keep it local too! Share ideas about plant-based eating, which we know is a great way to care about animals, care for the earth, and care for our health! Let's enjoy a Peas and Love Community Meal!

## **A Patriotic Pleasure!**

You always hear about our "patriotic duty" but here's a chance to engage in a "patriotic pleasure." On Saturday July 7, UUS: Easters will be registering voters at the annual Manchester fireworks, held annually at the Manchester Band Shell. Some people will staff a table, while others work the crowd carrying clipboards. We can arrive as early as 4, and will be able to talk with people straight up through the time of the fireworks, around 9:30 PM. Meantime you've got the allure of sharing a picnic with other UUS:E activists; hearing the music of Mass Conn Fusion and other bands; and patriotically signing up new voters on our nation's birthday!! Many thanks to Al Benford for working this out with the town! Please RSVP to Nancy Pappas: nanapap338@aol.com or 860-643-8082 Let me know what part of the day you're available!

#### **UUS:E GENERAL INFORMATION**

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

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