

# 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

February Ministry Theme: Trust  
Services at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

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### February 3: "Groundhoggin'."

Halfway between the winter solstice and the vernal equinox, we explore some of the ancient mysteries associated with this time of year. How might such mysteries inform our spiritual lives today? Then join us at 1:15 for a season, Pagan Imbolc ritual.

**Coordinator:** Rev. Josh Pawelek

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### February 10: "A Tale of Tragedy; a Tale of Possibility."

Continuing with our fiftieth anniversary series, Rev. Josh reviews a series of painful events related to race and racism within Unitarian Universalism in the late 1960s (often referred to as 'the Black Empowerment Controversy'). Today, the emergence of Black Lives of UU offers an opportunity to fulfill old promises and new ones as well.

**Coordinator:** Rev. Josh Pawelek

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### February 17: "The Wages of Trust is Life."

Unitarian Universalism is a covenantal faith. We gather around behavioral principles, not theological doctrines. As part of our 50th anniversary celebration, Rev. Josh reflects on the various covenants UUS:E has used over the years. What has it meant to place "trust in each other" at the heart of our collective spiritual life?

**Coordinator:** Rev. Josh Pawelek

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### February 24: "Trusting."

All Congregation Worship. For some of us, trust is easy. For others of us, trust is hard. Still for others, our capacity for trust depends on the situation. What is necessary for trust to flourish in a multigenerational spiritual community?

**Coordinators:** Linda Duncan, Gina Campellone, Rev. Josh Pawelek

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### March 3: "Honoring Our Past; Building Our Future."

As we kick off our 2019 Annual Appeal—our largest fundraising effort of the congregational year—Rev. Josh reflects on the importance of a thriving liberal, religious community east of the Connecticut River.

**Coordinators:** 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](mailto: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 February 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, fifty percent of our Sunday plate collections for the month of February will go to **Operation Fuel**.

Operation Fuel (<http://www.operationfuel.org/get-help/>) provides cash assistance for heating expenses for households in crisis, with incomes at or below 75% of the State Median Income guidelines. Local fuel banks assess client eligibility and make payments to vendors.

Please contact Louisa Graver at [lgraver163@gmail.com](mailto:lgraver163@gmail.com), David Lacoss, or Nancy Madar at [nancymadar@hotmail.com](mailto: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 and Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU)
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!

To all UUS:E Members:

Our ministry theme for February is trust. In reflecting on this theme, I realize trust occupies a different location within Unitarian Universalism than it does in other faiths. Ours is a this-worldly, covenantal and relational faith. We gather around a set of behavioral principles—guidelines for how we are going to be together, how we are going to treat each other. We purposefully do not gather around a particular theology or doctrine. What does this mean? It means that we place our primary trust in each other. Our trust is horizontal. It extends from person to person within the congregation and out into the wider community.

In doctrinal faiths, people gather around a theological idea or, more simply, a collective belief. Thus they place their primary trust in God or whatever metaphysical reality lies at the heart of their faith. Their trust is vertical, extending “up” to God. This does not mean that they don’t trust their fellow-parishioners or that they don’t have behavioral covenants—they do. But by definition that kind of horizontal, person-to-person trust is secondary to trust in God.

In doctrinal faiths, the conversation about trust is necessarily grounded in belief. In relational faiths, the conversation about trust is grounded in relationships.

Of course, within any Unitarian Universalist congregation there is a wonderful array of spiritual sensibilities, spiritual orientations, spiritual identities, and spiritual beliefs. In worship an atheist might be sitting next to a naturalistic theist, who might be sitting next to a Christian, who might be sitting next to a completely different kind of Christian, who might be sitting next to a Pagan, who might be

sitting next to a completely different kind of Pagan, who might be sitting next to an Agnostic, who might be sitting next to a Buddhist, and so on. Our beliefs clearly do not unite us. But our UU principles and our UUS:E covenant call us into relationships with our fellow congregants, with people in general, with non-human creatures and, ultimately, with the planet. And not just any relationships. No, we are called into relationships that have dignity, justice, compassion, a sense of interconnection, and love at their core. As Unitarian Universalists, we agree that such relationships here and now, in this life, in this world, matter immensely. That’s what unites us!

In order to cultivate such relationships, we must trust each other. We must trust that each of us enters into congregational life (however we do so) with a desire to treat each other with dignity, justice, compassion and love. The more I think about this, the more I realize how truly precious it is to be part of a relational faith. Especially in this era of bitterness, conflict, polarization and fear—when trust is so, so, so difficult—it is precious beyond measure to have a relational faith. Sustaining such a faith is hard work. But in my view, it is righteous work! And it’s the work we’ve all signed up for. I hope that gets an “Amen!”

With love,

—Rev. Josh



## Enter, rejoice, and come in!

A Religious Education message from Gina

Dear Friends,

When is the last time you played? I mean really played. I'm talking whole-hearted, fully invested, put all your worries aside PLAY. Chances are it's been a while. Even parents of young children probably aren't spending a whole lot of time playing, since kids themselves spend significantly less time at play than their parents did as kids. Despite the known benefits, play is quickly becoming an endangered activity in our society. And play is important not just for children, but for adults, as well. Play adds joy to life, boosts creativity, relieves stress, promotes empathy, and offers opportunities for establishing and strengthening relationships.

What about rest and downtime? Do you get enough of it? If your answer to that is no, you're not alone. Most of us don't. Nor do most kids. In a society that places a great deal of value on being busy all the time, families often find themselves over-scheduled and feeling anxious, irritable, and just plain exhausted.

Time to play and time to rest are among the most valuable gifts we can give to our children—and to ourselves. But this is easier said than done, especially when constant busyness has become the norm. And sometimes we just don't have a choice. My hope is that Unitarian Universalist Society: East can help provide you with opportunities for both. I hope that UUS:E may be a place where you can be playful and silly, as well as a place where you can take refuge, where your mind, body, and spirit can rest and be nourished. Our Religious Education and faith formation programming for both children and adults are intentionally designed to offer both.

Looking for opportunities to play?

Volunteer once a month in the nursery, chaperone a junior youth group party, join the spiritual art play group, check out one of our monthly coffee houses, attend the all congregation picnic, or join us for an afternoon of games and ice cream on February 9.

Looking for opportunities that are restful and restorative?

Try one of our weekly yoga classes, join the women's sacred singing circle, experience a Kirtan, breathe, pray, and meditate at worship services on Sundays, or attend a poetry walk in the fall or spring.

And sometimes just spending a day at home in your pajamas with a cup of tea and a good book, or sitting in a blanket fort with your kids playing Candy Land are the very best opportunities for rest and play. I hope you'll make time for that, too!

With love,

Gina



## The Policy Board's Column

A message from UUS:E President Rob Stolzman

The Policy Board is busy working with the Finance and Stewardship committees to review a preliminary budget for 2019 – 20. This work is important because we attempt to realistically and responsibly plan and budget for our staff's salaries and benefits, administrative expenses, our building and grounds costs and our program expenses. In short, it provides the fiscal framework for our beloved community to continue to thrive. Once we have a preliminary budget, the Stewardship committee incorporates our goals into the Annual Appeal and begins planning and executing this vital fundraising effort that supports the majority of our annual operations expenses.

I share this with you because we should give a great big "thank you" to all of the members of the Finance and Stewardship committees. They put a lot of time, energy and effort into taking on these vital tasks. Without them, we would not have the spiritual community that we currently know and love. I also share this because I hope you will begin to give some thought to your opportunity to contribute during the Annual Appeal. We have many goals and dreams for our beloved community in the upcoming years, ranging from striving to ensure that our pay and benefits for our staff meet the compensation guidelines established by the UUA to continuing to build our excellent and awesome RE and Music programs. We can only accomplish these goals, however, through the generosity of our members and friends. So I ask you to honor all of the hard work and dedication put in by our committee folks, and take some time during the Annual Appeal to see if you can support us a little more with your donations. Together, we can continue to do great things and build the best UUS:E community that we can.

Thanks.

## Membership News Greetings from the Membership Committee!



We have many new visitors each and every month, and **thank you for reaching out to new folks.** From the comments we've received, your friendliness has made a big impact.

So many of you have volunteered faithfully to help with Coffee Hours on Sunday, as well as being at the Welcome Table, and being a Sunday Service Greeter. Heartfelt THANKS go to all of you. However, substitutes are still needed from time to time. If you'd like to occasionally help with Coffee Hour please Contact Jackie Heintz ([jacqonstance@gmail.com](mailto:jacqonstance@gmail.com)). If you had some time to be at the Welcome Table, Jennifer Klee would love to know, so contact her at [jenduv@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jenduv@sbcglobal.net). Louisa Graver schedules all of our Greeters, so please contact her at [lgraver163@gmail.com](mailto:lgraver163@gmail.com).

Are you interested in joining our busy (and fun) committee? We'd love to have you! Talk to Edie Lacey, chair, ([edielacey1@gmail.com](mailto:edielacey1@gmail.com); [elacey1@cox.net](mailto:elacey1@cox.net)) or any committee member: Jennifer Klee, Gail Crook, Louisa Graver, Jackie Heintz, Betsy Nelson, Alexander Herpst, Susan Barlow, and Kathi Lee to learn more. You can always join us on the third Tuesday of the month at 6 PM in Room 2. No RSVP necessary!

## Passing the Flame, One Generation to Another



Roland Chirico, one of the early members of our society, and Gina Lucchetti from the RE program, light a beautiful new chalice during the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary kick-off on January 13. Rev. Josh, RE Director Gina Campellone and charter member Naomi Zima told stories from each decade of our history during the intergenerational service. More than 70 people stayed for a good old fashioned Soup Social, followed by a slide show and program!



### **This Month in UUS:E History:**

In February 1969, the dedicated people who were creating a UU congregation in Manchester began cleaning up their newly-rented property at 466 Main Street. Originally the Church of the Nazarene, it had been a karate school when we took it over. Volunteers patched holes and painted the walls, replaced doors, hung blankets to "define" RE classrooms in the basement and cleaned everything! (This building is now home base for the Manchester Area Conference of Churches.) Meantime, there were Sunday morning "programs" in homes and school rooms, as well as pot luck dinners where people got to know each other, and considered what kind of a fellowship we wanted to be.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events this month:**

- ✓ On February 10, Rev. Josh will speak about our denomination's challenges in responding to racism, in 1969 and today. Postponed from Jan. 20 due to the ice storm.
- ✓ On February 17, Rev. Josh will explore what it means to be a "covenanted" faith – without mandatory dogma, we are joined by our commitment to values and intentions.
- ✓ After the second service on the 17<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Josh hosts the Valentine's Day Chocolate Auction.
- ✓ AND the first-decade members continue to share their recollections with our in-house historians: Nancy and Joe Madar and Susan Barlow. Watch for their service in March!

## Stewarding Opportunity!

The Stewardship Committee is planning our 2019 Annual Appeal for this spring. We are looking for stewards who meet briefly with members about their annual pledges. This is an opportunity to get to know new people, share your passion and commitment for UUS:E and help make our Annual Appeal a success. The time commitment is relatively short with one training session and a few weeks to steward a pledging potluck and/or visit with a maximum of four members or friends. The stewardship conversations are a time of fellowship and sharing our dreams and aspirations. Talking about financial commitment is a small part of a much larger conversation about generosity and community. So please consider volunteering to be a steward this year.

We will provide training on Tuesday evening, March 5 from 6 – 8 PM (pizza & salad provided), and Saturday morning, March 2, 2019 from 9:30 – 11:30 AM (light refreshments). Please email Phil Sawyer at [psawyer215@gmail.com](mailto:psawyer215@gmail.com) or call 860-633-8655 if you are willing to help or have any questions.

Our Annual Appeal occurs during March 3 – April 7, 2019.

## Daring Democracy—From Discussion to Action

This is a continuation of last year's discussion of the UU Common Read, **Daring Democracy**. Using the solutions offered in this hopeful book as a base, we will explore and implement actions to restore democracy in the United States. Some examples of solutions we might consider are Campaign Finance Reform (a perennial favorite), Ranked Voting (recently passed in Maine), Restoring Voting rights to former Felons (yeah, Florida!), National Popular Vote, an End to Gerrymandering, and Fair Elections. At our first meeting we will decide when and how often to meet and our next steps. **Daring Democracy** is an easy, engaging, empowering, but not required read. New participants welcome! Join the "millions of Americans leaving despair behind as they push for and achieve historic change in the modern Democracy Movement."

Date: Sunday, February 10, 1:00 PM Meeting Room  
questions? [deenasteinberg@gmail.com](mailto:deenasteinberg@gmail.com)

## From the Stewardship Committee—

"Honoring Our Past – Building Our Future"

The 2019 – 20 Annual Appeal takes place during March. Do your part. Sign up now to be a steward. Sign up to host a pledging potluck!

The Annual Appeal is the time when each of us assesses the value of UUS:E in our lives. We make a financial pledge to support the budget for the coming year. We each give as much as we can so that our community can thrive and grow. While the Annual Appeal takes place during the month of March, your pledge is for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019. Watch for a mailing that has more information and important dates. Sign up to attend a pledging potluck event. If you can't make one of the potluck dates, please welcome a call from your steward. New this year: Saturday potluck brunch for RE families with child care/entertainment provided.

Your UUS:E Stewardship Committee – Adam Bender, Louisa Graver, Larry Lunden, Stan McMillen, Phil Sawyer, Debbie Starkel

## Announcing Religious Education Family Pledging Movie/Potlucks!

This spring the Stewardship Committee is happy to introduce RE Pledging Potlucks! On two Saturdays in March we will be hosting a Movie and Brunch Potluck at UUS:E specifically geared towards RE families and their children, but everyone is welcome. Your cherubs will be supervised, watching a movie upstairs, while we chat downstairs about ways to strengthen our UUS:E community! The Brunches will be held on March 9 and March 30 from 10 AM – 12 PM. These potlucks are a way to come together in community, enjoy good food and have a deeper conversation about our connection to UUS:E. There will be a signup sheet in the UUS:E RE Lobby after Classes in the month before the Potlucks. We hope to see your family there!

Please contact Adam Bender at 860-559-5501 or [adambender@hotmail.com](mailto:adambender@hotmail.com) to help with facilitation.

## Green Sanctuary News

### Notes from CT League of Conservation Voters Summit:

Four people from our group attended the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters Environmental Summit at Trinity College on January 17, where our many environmental, conservation and justice issues, challenges, needs and solutions were discussed and prioritized. – Janet Heller

An impressive lineup of speakers included Governor Ned Lamont, who pledged his commitment to renewable energy, reducing carbon emissions, and becoming a carbon neutral state; Rohan Patel of Tesla, who spoke about solar innovations and the company's goal of opening Connecticut to direct sales; and Katie Dykes, the new DEEP commissioner, who expressed concern about climate change and the need for environmental policies to mitigate it. Also notable during the panel discussions was the underlying theme of environmental justice and how past policies have had disproportionate negative impact on low-income and marginalized populations. Leticia Colon de Mejias, executive director of Energy Efficiencies Solutions, alerted us that the successful CT Conservation Load Management Plan—which lowered energy costs, reduced demand, lowered CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and generated \$1.4 billion—had been raided by the general fund. She delivered an impassioned plea to urge legislators to settle the case in circuit court, give our money back, and invest in renewables. – Mary Lawrence

### News from IREJN: Hartford Green Forum on State Legislation

This forum will cover the following legislative issues: Restoring Energy Efficiency Funding, Electric Vehicles, Offshore Wind Mandate, and the Fracking Waste Ban. Refreshments served at 6:00 PM. This event is FREE, but RSVP's are required. RSVP here

Tuesday, Feb 5 – 6:30 PM – Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Ave, Hartford

### CT NOFA's 37th Annual Winter Conference

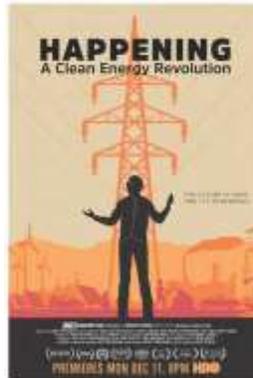
February 23, 2019 8 am – 5 PM, Housatonic Community College, Bridgeport, CT

With over 25 workshops to choose from, anyone interested in gardening or agriculture will find many choices. Our co-chair, Mary Lawrence will be

leading a talk on vegan eating. Keynote speaker will be CR Lawn, founder of Fedco Seeds speaking on "Restoring Our Seed Commons." More info here: <https://www.ctnofa.org/>

### Free Movie Night at UUS:E

**Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution.** Join us on Friday March 15, 7 PM



Filmmaker James Redford embarks on a colorful personal journey into the dawn of the clean energy era as it creates jobs, turns profits, and makes communities stronger and healthier across the US.

There will also be a discussion about climate solutions including a new bill in Congress, called the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividends Act (H.R.7173 and S.3791



### Music Salon

A Chamber Music Salon will be held on Friday evening, February 22, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the main meeting room. This is an informal gathering of musicians of all ages and levels of experience to enjoy making music together. We need to know in advance who is coming and what instrument you play so we can be prepared with music. You may also bring music that you would like to play. You are welcome to come and listen if you prefer. If you plan to attend but haven't let us know yet, send an email to Peggy Webbe ([peggywebbe@gmail.com](mailto:peggywebbe@gmail.com)) or Mary Bopp ([marybopp@verizon.net](mailto:marybopp@verizon.net)).



Join Your Friends at UUS:E for a  
**Multigenerational Game Day**

**&**

**Ice Cream Social!**

February 9, 2019

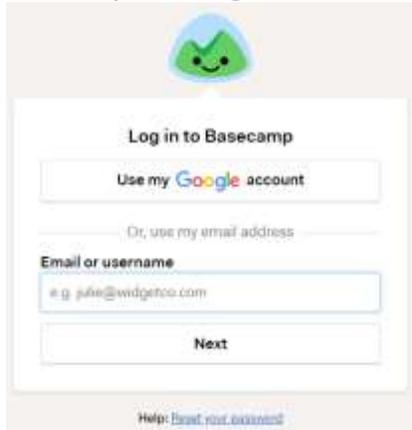
2 PM - 4:30 PM

Video Games, Board Games and free  
Ice Cream in the Main Sanctuary!



## Did you Know? Accessing Society Files

UUS:E uses Basecamp3 (formerly Seework) for projects, committee work, and collaboration. For example, the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Team is using Basecamp3 to plan, organize, share files, and keep up-to-date. If you are on the team, you can access files and get messages.



### Policies and Procedures

UUS:E , Basecamp3 has a project named **Policies and Procedures (B3)** that any member or friend of UUS:E can access...if you have a login. Want to read the minutes of the last Policy Board meeting? Once you are in Basecamp3, click **Policies and Procedures (B3)** and go to **Docs & Files** to see UUS:E policies, procedures, and committee minutes\*. Want to read the minutes of the last Policy Board meeting? Go to Board Minutes.

To access Basecamp3 go here:  
<https://3.basecamp.com/3535256/>.

### How Do I Get a Login?

What if you don't have a login or have forgotten your login? Contact Annie at [uuseoffice@uuse.org](mailto:uuseoffice@uuse.org) or Carol Marion at [cmarion333@gmail.com](mailto:cmarion333@gmail.com). If you have a login and cannot see Policies and Procedures, contact us.

- \* We are in process of locating and updating all policies and procedure documents, so if something is missing or out of date, inform Larry Lunden, [Kingbird613@comcast.net](mailto:Kingbird613@comcast.net). Only committees who have submitted minutes to Larry are represented. **DO NOT ADD OR DELETE DOCUMENTS HERE.** Please send policy and procedure related documents to Larry Lunden for formatting, naming and uploading in the correct location. If your committee would like to do your committee work on Basecamp3, let us know.

## The Wolves

**The Wolves**, a new play by Sarah deLappe

Directed by Kristen Morgan

Eastern Connecticut State University

Delmonte Studio Theatre

February 27 – March 3

<http://easternct.showare.com/thewolves/>

"In this fast-paced snapshot of suburban American life, a high-school girls soccer team navigates the insecurity, beauty, heartache, and power of growing up female today."

It's HERE!

## The Fifth Annual UUS:E CHOCOLATE AUCTION!!!

Special UUS:E 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition!

Sunday afternoon, February 17, 12:45 PM



Why? Because chocolate is awesome, and a chocolate auction is a great way to raise \$\$\$\$ for UUS:E!

How will this work? Well, it's pretty simple, actually. We need BAKERS and BIDDERS (and a few volunteers to help out)

All members and friends of UUS:E are invited to create chocolate confections (cookies, brownies, cakes, cupcakes, and any other kind of chocolate dessert you can imagine). Bring your creations to the meeting house on the 5th (include your name and a list of ingredients). Please let Rev. Josh know you are bringing something for the auction at [minister@uuse.org](mailto:minister@uuse.org).

Then, come to the auction at 1:00 and bid on whatever looks best to you! Bring your check book or cash and pay when you collect your confection. It's that simple!!!

We need 5 – 6 volunteers to help out on the 17<sup>th</sup>. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Rev. Josh at [minister@uuse.org](mailto:minister@uuse.org) or 860-646-5151!

## 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.

Contact Paul Cocuzzo at [pcocuzzo@gmail.com](mailto: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.

- February 12: **Small Great Things**, by Jodi Picoult
- March 12: **The Age of Innocence**, by Edith Wharton

For information: [marlar@wordshard.com](mailto:marlar@wordshard.com)

#### UU Buddhists

First Tuesdays, Room 2

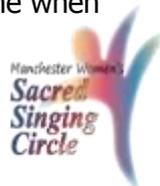
The Buddhist Group meets at 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month, for meditation, dharma, and discussion. The February ministry theme is "trust." Contact Nancy Thompson [nancythompson123@yahoo.com](mailto:nancythompson123@yahoo.com) with questions.

#### 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](mailto:janeosb3@gmail.com)



#### Yoga News

Come enjoy yoga at UUS:E!

The current yoga session with Susan Barlow is January 23 – March 13, 11 AM – 12 noon. The current yoga session with Jessica De Carli is January 28 – March 18, (weather permitting) 5:45 – 6:45 PM.

Come enjoy physical strengthening and the opportunity to quiet the mind. 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](mailto:jess.decarli@gmail.com)
- Susan at [SBarlow627@aol.com](mailto:SBarlow627@aol.com), or
- Annie at [uuse153@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uuse153@sbcglobal.net)

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

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

#### Soul Mate Workshop

Release yourself of rigid contemporary beliefs of what a soul mate is and what a soul mate is supposed to do for you. Deep soul relationships call on us to embrace the sacred mysteries of our soul, not our ego, in the ordinary events of our lives. Discover how to be in relationships soulfully and how to identify whom you have a soul mate relationship with. Led by Fredericka Close, a certified Sacred Contracts Consultant. Please visit <http://www.sacredcontractsconsulting.com> to learn more. A \$30 donation is requested, no one turned away. Please register in advance with Annie Gentile at 860-646-5151 or Freddie Close at 860-872-2911 as class size is limited. Saturday, February 16, 9:00 AM – noon.

## Books, Classes and Discussions

continued

### Science and Religion

4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays 4:30 – 6:00  
in the Chapel (Garden Level)

How does science inform our beliefs? Where do science and religion meet? Where are they in opposition? Members of this ongoing group will select and discuss readings covering myriad topics such as evolutionary biology, artificial intelligence, climate change, the brain, genetics...and the way we look at the Big Questions. Please sign up in advance, by contacting Annie Gentile at [uuseoffice@uuse.org](mailto:uuseoffice@uuse.org) or 860-646-5151 or Linda Duncan at [lindakduncan@gmail.com](mailto:lindakduncan@gmail.com). Those who sign up will receive information about the next meeting's topic and questions. Second meeting: Thursday, February 28, 4:30 – 6:00.



### Jesus and After: The First Eighty Years

This course explores the earliest years of Christianity, when it was still a universalist sect of Judaism. Together we will read E. Bruce Brooks' **Jesus and After: The First Eighty Years**, available at <http://www.umass.edu/wsp/publications/early/jesus/index.html>. As one reviewer has said, "this book reveals a Jesus compatible with science and Unitarian Universalism, a Jesus with urgent ethical relevance to our lives today." Meet in Rev. Josh's office on Thursday afternoons January 31, February 14 and 28, and March 14 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM.

## Get Connected! with UUS:E on the Web

**UUS:E WEBSITE** is located at <http://uuse.org>. 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 [uuse153@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uuse153@sbcglobal.net).

**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](http://www.facebook.com/UUSEast). You can find out what's going on at UUS:E here. And please share our events to 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@gmail.com](mailto:cmarion333@gmail.com).

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

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 [uuse153@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uuse153@sbcglobal.net) to be added to this weekly email of what's happening at UUS:E. Send submissions to [SBarlow627@aol.com](mailto:SBarlow627@aol.com)

## Imbolc Ritual

Join the UUS:E Pagan Study Group for an observation of Imbolc

Sunday, February 3, 1:15 PM

UUS:E Meeting Room

All are Welcome!



Imbolc, also known as Brigid's Day is a Gaelic traditional festival marking the beginning of spring, commonly held about halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. It is one of the eight sabbat celebrations in the Neo-Pagan "Wheel of the Year." Imbolc often address the theme of purification in preparation for the coming spring. Our UUS:E Imbolc ritual will help us reflect on those things we need to let go of in order to welcome new opportunities, new paths, new life.

If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Peggy Gagne at 860-646-6828 or [pgagne15@att.net](mailto:pgagne15@att.net).

## 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, 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



## Missing VHS Tapes

From 1980 through 1985, six Broadway productions were presented to packed audiences at our UUS:E meetinghouse. They were produced and directed by our beloved Bob Richardson and many of the performers were our own members. Videos were made from each of these productions, but alas, only two still exist, thanks to Howard and Miriam Epstein: **Music Man** in 1983 and **Carnival** in 1985.

We are looking for the missing ones – 1980 – **Forum**; 1981 – **South Pacific**; 1982 – **Carousel**; 1984 – **Fiddler**. If anyone has these tapes or is aware of where they might be, please call Annie at the church office or contact Joe Madar at 860-647-8559. Thanks for your help.

**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: [uuseoffice@uuse.org](mailto:uuseoffice@uuse.org)

**Minister:** Rev. Joshua Pawelek 860-652-8961, [revpawelek@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:robandtammylee@yahoo.com)

**Director of Religious Education:**

Gina Campellone, 860-875-8468, [redirector@uuse.org](mailto:redirector@uuse.org)

**Newsletter Editor:** Paul Cocuzzo, 978-270-2056, [newsletter@uuse.org](mailto:newsletter@uuse.org)

**Website Coordinator:** Carol Marion 860-643-8765, [uuseweb@gmail.com](mailto:uuseweb@gmail.com)

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

March Newsletter Deadline:  
February 20

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