

Unitarian Universalist Society: East

Member of the New England Region 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.

Editor’s Note: due to COVID-19 precautions, UUS:E has closed the Meetinghouse for all activities. Only staff members will enter the building until further notice.

Check our website and watch for email eblast notices for updates. <http://uuse.org>

Follow us on Twitter [@uuseast](#). Check out [#uuseast](#).
Find us on Facebook at [/UUSEast](#).



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Sunday Services Schedule

July Ministry Theme: **Story**

In July and August, we continue to hold one virtual worship service every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM in Zoom. Our Zoom login and call-in information will be shared through the congregational eblasts on Wednesdays and Saturdays. To subscribe to the congregational eblast, please send a message to [e-news@uuse.org](mailto:news@uuse.org) or contact Annie Gentile in the UUS:E office to arrange another method of receiving relevant information.

Also: we are reopening, slowly but surely. As part of our "soft" reopening, a limited number of members and friends can join us in the sanctuary for worship! Sign up with our Office Administrator at uuseoffice@uuse.org or 860-646-5151..

July 4: "If Only There are Stars."

Inspired by the poem of that title by Japanese Christian pacifist and labor activist, Toyohiko Kagawa, this morning we explore the concept of stars. How have stars helped us historically? What have stars meant to us symbolically? What do stars mean to you?

This service will include star-related music..

Coordinators: Stacey Musulin and Martha Larson

July 11: "How I Found UUS:E and Why I Stay."

We come to our beloved community in many ways and through different journeys. How does it happen? And what keeps us committed to the health of our congregation and the wellbeing of its members and friends? Join us as we explore answers to these questions. Members of the UUS:E community will share their stories.

Coordinators: Alan Ayers and Marsha Howland

July 18: "A Sailor's Call."

For many of us, there are actives, hobbies, and interests that are lifelong pursuits. Over a lifetime, these pursuits inform and our way of knowing and being in the world. Today we are joined by Rev. Drew Moeller - UUS:E member and minister serving the UU Society of Bangor, as he reflects on how his lifelong pursuit of sailing has informed his life and ministry. Music by Linda Koehler and Rissa Moore. Online Zoom and technical support by Jennifer Rodriguez.

Coordinator: Rev. Andrew Moeller, Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor

July 25: "For the Love of the Game."

Rev. Josh's son is playing on an American Legion travel baseball team this summer. After watching more than twenty games all over Connecticut (including one at Dunkin Donuts Park in Hartford), Rev. Josh will report on the spiritual lessons he finds embedded in America's pastime. Note: This morning we welcome the members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor, ME.

Coordinator: Rev. Josh Pawelek

2021 – 2022 Ministry Themes

<https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/themes.html>

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| September | Embracing Possibility |
| October | Cultivating Relationship |
| November | Holding History |
| December | Opening to Joy |
| January | Living with Intention |
| February | Widening the Circle |
| March | Renewing Faith |
| April | Awakening |
| May | Nurturing Beauty |
| June | Celebrating Blessings |

Collecting Backpacks & Socks

Our partners at Verplanck Elementary School in Manchester have asked us to collect new backpacks and socks for their students. Our new Family Resource Coordinator tells us that these youngsters are 4 – 9 years old, usually wearing shoe sizes 1 – 6. You can drop off donations at the church most weekdays, just call ahead to be sure that Annie will be there when you arrive. Please add a note to let us know who you are!! We would like to cut off donations August 25, so that we can get the last delivery made to the school. Any questions? Email Nancy Pappas at nanapap338@aol.com. And thank you in advance!

Book Recommendations?

Book Recommendations may be sent to Marcie Brown at: marcie1661@gmail.com. Please include details as those below.

See all of our recommendations so far at:

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/list/130686405-paul-cocuzzo?shelf=uuse-recommends&utf8=%E2%9C%93>

Community Outreach Ministry

Charitable Giving for July 2021

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 months of July and August will be split among three area food banks:

- [MACC Food Pantry](#)
- [Hockanum Valley Food Pantry](#)
- [CT Mutual Aid East of River Food Pantry](#)

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.

Introduction to the Enneagram

This free 3-session summer program will introduce you to the Enneagram, a system of personality types that many find reliable and useful for both personal and spiritual growth. You'll be provided with the official test to learn your type and many resources and handouts to explore further, both in the group and on your own. Sessions will be scheduled 10:30 AM to noon on 3 dates in July and August, to be selected by the group. First and third sessions will be on Zoom, the second (hopefully) in person. For a link to a concise description of the enneagram, go to Wikipedia or text the facilitator, Anne Bailey, at 860-798-4765. For more information or to register, contact Anne at 860-379-7740 or abailey379@gmail.com. Registration will be open through **July 4**.

About your facilitator: Anne Bailey is a lifelong UU and member of UC West Hartford who has a knack for research and finding resources. She has been acquainted with the Enneagram for more than 20 years and has found it an invaluable tool for better self-understanding and improving relationships with others.

UUS:E Outdoor Tag Sale

Saturday September 18, 9 AM – 2 PM (Rain date September 25)

Please start collecting items to donate! (no clothing or knives please). We will start collecting at UUS:E Sunday 9/12, drop-off times to be announced.

Fill-a-bag for \$4 starting at 1 PM (We hope this will decrease volume of items left over.) Please collect paper bags from Highland Park or Trader Joe's for the "fill-a-bag" hour.

There will be a booth for new items. Have you gotten something you didn't want or need? Still in box or with tags? Donate to the booth! We can price these items higher. Want to donate collectibles? Please try to research "sold" prices on eBay and recommend a price range.

We need your help! Please consider volunteering:

- Manage a booth:
 - Books
 - New items and Collectibles
 - Other ideas for a booth?
- Manage advertising/marketing
- Distribute posters
- Pricing items - 9/12 - 9/17
- Set-up day of sale
- Work at the sale on 9/18 - one hour shifts or more
- Break-down day of sale
- Take leftover items to donate

We want this to be a successful fundraiser for our beloved UUS:E and we need your help and support! Look for further announcements through e-blast, newsletters and at beginning of services.

Know you want to help already? Contact Marcie or Sandy

Marcie Brown & Sandy Karosi

Stop & Shop Cards

Stop & Shop cards can still be purchased despite the pandemic. Anyone who is interested in buying a card can contact Annie, our office administrator. Cards come in \$50, \$100 and \$250 amounts. The money raised from this effort goes into the general fund. And they make great holiday gifts! If you need any help with this or more information, contact Sandy Johnson at 860-888-9673.

The Minister's Column: Hallelujah!

Dear Ones,

As most of you are aware, my father died suddenly of a heart attack on Memorial Day, just three weeks from the time I am writing these words—though it feels much longer than that. I am so grateful to the UUS:E community for your support and love during this very difficult time. Your cards, flowers, little gifts, kind words and hugs have been an immeasurable blessing. I am particularly grateful to our (outgoing) president, Rob Stolzman, and our Personnel Committee chair, Vivian Carlson, who were very clear that I should be taking whatever leave from my duties I need in order to attend to family members and begin a healthy grieving process.

When my father died, I knew something about what I would be going through. I knew it all too well. Over the years I have served as UUS:E's minister, I've had the honor of accompanying many of you through this very same experience, the death of a parent. I know all about contacting the funeral home, arranging for cremation and burial, writing an obituary, obtaining death certificates, worrying (in this case) about the surviving parent, and cycling through a range of feelings: numb, empty, strange, incredulous, sad, confused, angry, joyful. But I also knew it would not be the same. I was not my father's minister. I am not my family's minister. I am certainly not my own minister. I would not and could not minister my way through this. When I arrived at the emergency room the night of his death, the social worker who came out to greet me said, "I hear you're a minister." My response: "Not tonight." This is my loss, not somebody else's.

My instinct is to attempt to say something profound about losing a parent. But those words aren't coming to me. I have no big "universals" to share. I'm just remembering my very "particular" father. He was complicated. A Yale School of Medicine research scientist with highly unorthodox methods; a mystic who spoke with trees; an athlete who stopped playing college sports in order to sing in the choir; a musician who could bang out honky-tonk piano jams in any setting with no inhibitions, yet who became paralyzed with stage fright anytime he was playing the cello in front of people; a recovering alcoholic who quit AA as soon as he got sober and stayed the course solo for almost

thirty years; a caring colleague who, multiple times, helped scientists escape countries with oppressive regimes to pursue careers in the United States. Never a fan of attending the theater, he loved acting in and directing plays and musicals at this church. He loved his grandchildren and assumed everything they did was genius. No doubt about it, he was self-absorbed. Especially in his later years, it was hard for him to hear anything about my life. Our conversations were largely about him. Still, for a self-absorbed person, I'm pretty sure I've never met anyone as generous or kind to others. How did he pull that off?

Prepare yourselves. I suspect part of my grieving process will include sharing stories about dad in sermons and in other contexts. More to come...

Summer is upon us. It's been a long pandemic year, a long and very different congregational year, a long community organizing year. I am going to take real vacation and study leave time this summer (last year that didn't really happen)—although I will be preaching a few times here and there. I wish for you a glorious summer; I wish for you a healthy and safe return to post-pandemic life. I wish for you meaning and purpose, joy and laughter, comfort and peace.

With love,
—Rev. Josh



Enter, rejoice, and come in!

A Religious Education message from Gina

The 2020-2021 Religious Education year has come to a close. It was an unusual year, to say the least. It was a year of challenges, as well as many successes. We gained a lot of insight about the value of community and connection, and the RE Committee is using what we've learned to help us plan our Religious Education programming for this coming school year. You'll hear more about that soon.

At the time of this writing, UUS:E has just begun a "soft re-opening," meaning small group gatherings can start meeting indoors, and a limited number of folks can sign up to sit in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings to watch our live steamed services.

Barring any COVID spikes or other virus-related complications, we plan to fully reopen for in-person programming the first week of September.

In the meantime, RE activities will be held primarily outdoors this summer. During the months of July and August we'll offer a modified RE program, which was designed based on families' responses to the summer survey sent out in May. The schedule was emailed to all families with children and youth, and you can also find it below.

I wish to express my gratitude to the many kids, parents, and volunteers who persevered and adapted to a "pandemic style" RE program. Your participation and enthusiasm helped make it a surprisingly great year. Thank you to everyone who attended virtual meetings and contributed artwork, poetry, music, videos, and more. Thanks, as well, to all the members of the RE Committee for the time and energy they so generously invested in our program in order to help not just maintain it, but to grow it during the pandemic. And finally, I want to give a heartfelt thank you to Tammy Stolzman, as her second term as Chair of the Religious Education committee draws to a close. Her dedication to our children and youth, and her commitment to providing a high quality, engaging program rooted in justice and compassion have helped Religious Education at UUS:E grow and thrive.

May this summer bring you health, happiness, and opportunities for rest and relaxation.

With love,

Gina

UUS:E Religious Education Summer Schedule 2021

Elementary RE (Grades Pre-K - entering 6th grade)

- Sun. June 27 10-11 AM Spray Tie Dye (Bring a tee-shirt and dress in old clothes!)
- Thurs. July 15 6-7 PM Water Extravaganza (Be prepared to get wet!)
- Sun. July 25 10-11 AM Water Extravaganza
- Thurs. August 5 6-7 PM Obstacle Course, Giant Bubbles, & Sports of all Sorts
- Sun. August 22 10-11 AM Obstacle Course, Giant Bubbles, & Sports of All Sorts

Junior Youth (entering 7th grade – entering 9th grade)

- Fri. June 18 7-9 PM Pizza, fire pit, & s'mores at UUS:E
- Tues. July 13 6-7:45 PM Fun City Trampoline Park in New Britain
- Wed. August 18 6:45-9 PM Mini golf & ice cream at Sonny's Place in Somers

High School Youth Group (entering 10th – 12th grade)

- Sun. July 18 approx. 10 AM-6 PM Six Flags New England
- Fri. July 23 Movie night and s'mores at UUS:E (Exact time TBD)
- Sat. Aug 14 Hiking and geocaching at Hop Meadow Trail in Manchester (Exact time TBD)
- Sun. Aug 29 11 AM Meeting - maybe brainstorm the year's activities, have some fun



We Are UUs!

UUnpeeling the Layers

A series to learn more about each other



Peg Darrah

Peg was brought up in the Roman Catholic faith but found herself searching for something more. Starting in high school, she attended many different faith traditions including Baptist, Methodist and Episcopal. After her marriage, her husband and she were both active in the Episcopal Church for more than 47 years.

All her life, she loved to read and always knew she wanted to become a librarian. As a child she was a constant reader and also very forgetful so soon figured out that if she became a librarian, she wouldn't have to pay all those overdue fines that were bankrupting her childhood. After getting a master's degree at Simmons College, she began a long career of library work: from academic libraries, The State Library, public libraries, then high school and later a middle school library. She also attended the University of New Hampshire which is where she met Cressy Goodwin and his wife Jeanne almost 60 years ago while in a square and folk dance group.

Her hobbies include reading, swimming, gardening, and traveling. She and her husband travelled extensively in the U.S. and were lucky enough to spend time in each of the fifty states before his death in 2013.

Her greatest joy is spending time with her children and grandkids. She shares with many of you the stress of taking a year out without any hugs and kisses! What a glorious Mothers' Day that was!

Each year since 1969, Peg mailed out Christmas cards and over the years other people in diminishing numbers return theirs to her. Two years ago, on one of these cards, was a note from Cressy Goodwin. Except for Christmas cards, she

hadn't heard from him in decades! Jeanne had passed away years earlier and he suggested they get together. We did just that, and now they have both families to enjoy and celebrate with as well.

Peg first started coming to UUS:E a few years ago, and finally decided to sign the book this past June (with all the COVID precautions in place!). Now, Cressy and she have found real companionship and a spiritual home together and here at UUS:E.

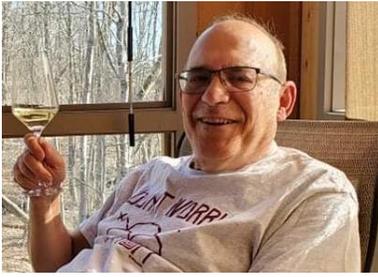


Gina Mango

Gina moved to Connecticut in 2016 after living in Pennsylvania for 14 years where she attended college and graduate school, earning a master's degree in Social Work. She grew up in Massachusetts until leaving for college and will always think of the Baystate as "home."

As a child, Gina attended seven years of Catholic school and was baptized Protestant and attended a Congregational Church. In high school Gina was introduced to a Unitarian Universalist Society and, for the first time, felt a sense of belonging within a religious community. She remembered these experiences and, although she continued to attend various Christian services and lightly explored and educated herself about other religions, she never really connected with or felt able to personally align with and endorse the full message and interpretations presented to her other than within Unitarian Universalism.

Gina lives in Manchester where she works as a clinical consultant in the behavioral health unit of a disability insurance company and also has a private psychotherapy practice. She is hoping to bring her passion for mental health and children and families to this community.



Steve Simon

Steve studied Chemistry at Lehigh University, Cleveland State University and Wayne State University receiving his PhD in 1975. His passion for environmental work began as a graduate student when he helped organize the first Earth Day event in Cleveland after watching the Cuyahoga River burn.

He is now a retired scientist/engineer with over 45 years of environmental experience and is currently volunteering for climate advocacy with Elders Climate Action where he is chair of their national policy committee. For over 12 years, Steve worked in many Russian districts and former Soviet Union countries on nuclear waste and non-proliferation for the DoD. He and his wife Ann lived in Moscow for two years.

Steve is a recovering Catholic, and he and Ann first discovered Unitarian Universalism in the early 80s while living in Las Vegas. They became very active in the small UU Fellowship where their two young children doubled the RE program. Ann and Steve became interested in modern Shamanism when visiting the UU retreat center, The Mountain, in the 90s. They have both taken numerous courses from the Foundation for Shamanic Studies and the Four Winds Society. Steve is interested in starting shamanic drumming/journeying circle at UUS:E.



Robin Byrne

Robin grew up in Huntington, Long Island, but her family longed to live in a more rural setting and moved to Connecticut in 1966. There, they enjoyed a large garden, and raised a few chickens, a couple of pigs and some sheep.

She grew up a Congregationalist and, when her children were young, taught Sunday school at Westfield Congregational Church in Danielson, CT. She longed for a spiritual connection, but realized she was really agnostic and has disassociated herself from the church for about 20 years.

She has a BA in fine arts and was a passionate public educator in the Brooklyn, CT school system, teaching in a middle school setting most of her career. With her fine arts background, she loved incorporating art in her classroom environment. Her last two years of teaching were at the elementary school after which she retired and downsized to a small home on a sweet lot in Ashford, CT with plenty of space for gardens and chickens and plenty of local farms nearby. She also continues to explore her artistic expressions in retirement.

She had hopes of doing some traveling but has gone nowhere since the pandemic hit. An avid reader, who is particularly drawn to realistic and historical fiction, she admits to reading and listening to too much news. She loves gardening, DIY, walking and hiking and is oftentimes seen with a rescue dog or two.

And in retirement, Robin also began seriously looking for a spiritual home. Over the course of several months, she visited many churches and came to UUS:E in December 2019, two months before the pandemic began. She loved that service and was taken with its lovely music. She continued to come to UUS:E and was able to attend more in-person services before they went on-line, and she knew then that she had found her spiritual home.



Ann Simon

Ann was born in Dobbs Ferry, NY and grew up in Moorestown and Princeton, NJ. She and Steve spent most of their married life in Las Vegas and Virginia, but have lived all over, including two years in Moscow. They spent almost four years in Indiana before coming to Connecticut. Where they stayed with their son and his family in South Windsor until, in February, they found their home in Vernon.

She taught High School (English, Developmental Reading, World History, AP Psychology) and college (English and Technical Writing), because why stick to one prep when you can make yourself crazy? She was also a technical editor. When she and Steve lived in Moscow, she wrote a quirky novel, "Jaguar Sees: the Lacquer Box" and has a couple of humorous blogs floating around out there.

She and Steve have been married 50 years and were at Woodstock together. They have two children. Their daughter is Dean of Graduate Students and a Professor of Neuroscience at Ball State University. Their son is a Professor of Health Economics at UConn. Their parents are inordinately proud.

Ann is an introvert. Her interests include travel, quilting, reading and generally puttering around. She is a balletomane and wishes someone would offer daytime adult ballet classes. She is on the lookout for a couple of cats, so if you have extras, let her know.

She grew up as a Reformed Jew and since has grown into a Jewish/Shamanic/Unitarian community. Her spiritual dilemma is staying tethered rather than letting go.



Maureen Flanagan

Maureen grew up in a large, Irish Catholic family. She was raised in Manchester but has lived in Tolland for the past 20 years. Prior to moving to Tolland, Maureen spent 10 years living on Dartmoor in the southwest of England, where her daughter Michaela was born.

Maureen's career as a Probation Officer started in the UK with the Devon Probation Service. Upon her return to CT, she landed a job as a Juvenile Probation Officer. She just celebrated her 21st anniversary working for the state, and she is currently making plans to retire from state service with the goal of applying her skills and experience in a different setting.

Her long journey to her UU home began after the death of her dad in 2014. When her father was no longer able to drive after a stroke, Maureen felt it was her duty, and privilege, to accompany him to weekly Mass at St Bridget's church in Manchester. When she continued to attend church after her dad's passing, she realized that the patriarchy of the Roman Catholic church, and the tenets of Christianity as a whole, were in conflict with her beliefs. She made a decision to take responsibility for her own spiritual practice, rather than being led by some misguided sense of obligation. Maureen participates, joyfully, in the Sacred Women's Singing Circle, the UUS:E choir, and the Social Justice group.

Maureen is at her happiest when she is on top of a mountain, especially if it was hard work to get there! In between hikes, her two dogs make sure that she is walking...a lot. Raising her daughter as a single mother has been the greatest joy of her life.

Books, Classes, and Discussions

Adult Religious Education

Book Lovers

The Book Lovers meets second Tuesdays at 3:30 on Zoom. Ask Martha Larson (marlar@wordshard.com) for the Zoom sign in.

Goodreads descriptions:

https://www.goodreads.com/review/list/130686405-paul-cocuzzo?ref=nav_mybooks&shelf=uuse-book-lovers

- July 13: **Henry's Sisters** by Cathy Lamb
- August 10: **The Water Dancer**, by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- September 14: **The Left Hand of Darkness**, by Ursula Le Guin
- October 12: **The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek**, by Kim Michele Richardson.
- November 9: **Friday Black**, by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah

Buddhist Group

The Buddhist Group meets via Zoom at 7 PM Tuesday, July 5, for meditation and discussion. All are welcome; no meditation experience necessary. Contact Nancy Thompson at nancythompson123@yahoo.com for the Zoom info.

Yoga at the Meetinghouse!

All welcome to gentle-to-moderate yoga classes in the UUS:E Meetinghouse, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM with Susan Barlow. \$5 drop-in fee. Bring a yoga mat or towel and wear comfortable clothes. All welcome, including beginners! Yoga provides an opportunity to quiet the mind as well as strengthen and relax the body. Direct questions to: Susan at SBarlow627@aol.com or Annie at the church office, 860-646-5151. Yoga is one of the UUS:E adult education offerings. We are polling interest in a Monday evening class. Plan to wear a mask to enter the building. We'll discuss removing masks when we are on our mats.

Distinguished Youth Service Award Recipients



Congratulations to Anya Stolzman and Casey Campellone, the 2021 recipients of UUS:E's Distinguished Youth Service Award. The Distinguished Youth Service Award (DYSA) acknowledges and recognizes those youth who have given their time and energies to perform significant services to the congregation or community. In order to earn the award, youth must take part in a minimum of ten activities over the course of the year. These activities include community service, social justice actions, and education. Participation in such activities allows youth opportunities to practice stewardship, build relationships, and actively engage in the life of the congregation, while fostering personal growth and UU identity formation. Some of the activities this year's award recipients engaged in include:

- Participation in worship services and attending committee meetings
- Volunteering at the holiday fair, fall grounds clean-up at UUS:E, and spring yardwork for members of the congregation
- Sending care packages to young adult members of the congregation who are away at college or newly employed
- Educating themselves through personal readings, attending CB Beal's workshop on Preemptive Radical Inclusion, & meeting with other UU youth groups in CT
- Engaging in social justice & anti-oppression efforts by participating in the Black Lives Matter movement, attending rallies & demonstrations, and supporting the work of Power Up Manchester

Anya is a senior at RHAM High School in Hebron, and Casey is a junior at the Academy of Aerospace and Engineering in Windsor.

Congratulations!

Bridging Senior, Jessica Slogesky!



Unitarian Universalists recognize that the transition from youth to young adulthood is something to be honored and celebrated. In UU congregations we use the term “bridging” to refer to the process of leaving youth community and finding one’s place in young adult community. It is customary to hold a bridging ceremony for youth who have reached this milestone. However, as in person worship services are still on hold, this year’s bridging senior, Jessica Slogesky, was recognized during our virtual service on June 13.

Jessica and her family (parents Jeff & Grahame, and older brother John) began attending UUS:E about 15 years ago. Jess started out in Spirit Play and progressed through elementary RE, Our Whole Lives, and Affirmation. At 14 she signed the membership book and officially became a youth member of UUS:E. Over the past several years Jessica has cared for infants and toddlers in the in the nursery and served as a volunteer teacher for preschoolers in the Spirit Play classroom. Jess is grateful to her parents for choosing to raise her in the UU faith tradition, and to the many members of the congregation who served as mentors and inspired her to use her voice.

Jessica graduated from Manchester High School in June and will attend Capitol Community College in the fall, with plans to transfer to a NYC school in a few years in order to pursue her passion of theater and comedy. In the meantime, she will continue with her part time job at Friendly’s and is looking forward to playing the role of a villager at Sturbridge Village this summer.

Congratulations, Jessica!

How UUS:E Zoomed Into the Future



zoom

In March 2020 the world, and UUS: E changed forever: COVID-19. There would be no live, in-person services until further notice— a few weeks, a few months or a year —no one knew. How would we continue to be a congregation?

With no answers to these questions, Rev Josh and Jane Osborn, our sexton, changed roles, and quickly worked together to figure out how to “do church” using the technology we had at the time— a laptop, Zoom software, a borrowed sound board, a web cam, and a few mikes. It’s hard to believe just how quickly they were able to manage this difficult situation. Jane spent many hours on-line, researching the various options that were being offered to churches all over the country, who were facing the same issues.

But Jane and Rev. Josh needed support if this online scenario was to continue indefinitely, so a “Streaming Team” committee was organized to get more people involved, who could help bring us to where we are today. Many people answered the call, to work with Jane and Rev. Josh to design a new system that would serve us now and when we return to in-person services. Some members researched and installed a new powerful computer and vMix video control software which allowed us to produce more professional looking Sunday services. Others volunteered to learn the new system in order to help Jane and Rev. Josh on Sunday mornings. We also needed to upgrade to a faster internet connection.

There were other needs that members were willing to help with, including securing our Zoom sessions from hackers, creating slide shows, producing music and other videos, and helping in a variety of other ways.

At the risk of leaving anyone out, I would like to acknowledge and thank the following volunteers who stepped up to support this important mission and continue to do so:

Jane Osborn, Rev. Josh, Michelle Spadaccini, Jason Spadaccini, Stan McMillen, Jim Adams, Carol Marion, Peter Marotto, Gina Campellone, Jessey Ina-Lee, Dan Thompson, Anne Carr, David Luchetti, Ellen Williams.

We can always use more helpers!

Joe Madar, Streaming Team leader

Annual Meeting Results

Editor's Note: I thought this article was worth repeating....

The congregation approved the Congregational Year 2022 (7/1/21 – 6/30/22) budget.

The congregation also approved the CY22 slate of officers, see below.

| | |
|---|---|
| President: | Peggy Webbe |
| Member-at-Large [One-Year Term]: | Ellen Williams |
| Communications and Technology Chair: | Patrick Eaton-Robb |
| Denominational Affairs Chair: | Carrie Kocher |
| Music Committee Chair (2-year term): | Dorothy Bognar |
| Membership Committee Co-chair: | Sheila Foran |
| Social Justice and Anti-Oppression Co-chair*: | Azucena Minaya Llantoy will assume Jim Adams' remaining one-year term |
| Social Justice and Anti-Oppression Co-chair: | Jim Adams will take a two-year term |
| RE Chair: | Desiree Holian-Borgnis |
| Sunday Services Co-chair: | Marsha Howland will serve a second two-year term |
| Stewardship Committee Chair: | Adam Bender will serve a second two-year term |
| Sustainable Living Co-Chair: | Mary Lawrence will serve a second two-year term |
| Adult Religious Education Chair: | Lynn Dove |
| NLDC: | Rhona Cohen will serve a third two-year term |
| NLDC: | Peter Marotto will serve a fourth two-year term |

*Information only; she's not being elected

In addition, a question was raised regarding whether term limits apply to members of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC). The Board reviewed our Constitution and found that Article XI, Section 2 provides that the NLDC "shall consist of seven Members of the Society, all of whom shall serve for two-year terms, such that three are elected in even years and four are elected in odd years." No term limits are applied to NLDC positions in the UUS:E Constitution.

We also thanked members who are completing their terms or stepping down:

- Bill Graver – Denominational Affairs
- Lorry King – Adult Religious Education
- Tammy Stolzman – RE Chair
- Anne Carr – Communications and Technology Chair
- Rob Stolzman – President
- Peggy Webbe – Music Chair
- Monica van Beusekom – Member-at-Large
- Jennifer Klee – Communications and Technology Chair [appointed to fill remaining term of Anne Carr]
- Carolyn Gimbrone – Membership Committee Co-chair

UUS:E GENERAL INFORMATION

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

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