



The South County Unitarian Universalist

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 22 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2013



June Services

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES ARE AT 10 A.M.



June 2

"We Are the World" – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

Does a commitment to our UU principles and a Theology of Oneness call us to a new perspective of outreach? What is our connection to the world outside our walls, and does that connection hold a faithful responsibility? We'll explore these questions and more.

The UUCSC Annual Meeting will take place after the service.

June 9

Appreciation Sunday – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

How much appreciation resides in your heart? That's an important question. Appreciation and gratitude form the foundation of a healthy working community. They are the wellspring that nourishes community activity and refreshes the spirit. Today we express appreciation for our Music and Religious Education programs and for all that all of you do here.

A Bridging Ceremony for graduating Senior Youth will be part of the service.

June 16

Change, Part 3: Farewell and a Faithful Completion of Covenant

– *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

This is Rev. Betty's final service at UUCSC. We will feel the worth and the consequence of the Covenant we shared, and together we will let it go . . . we will let it go. The service will include a ritual in which all may participate, including children and youth.

This Intergenerational Service is also our Annual Flower Communion.

Please remember to bring a flower to church today.

June 23

Summer Solstice – *Linda Whyte Burrell*

Looking forward to the beginning.

June 30

Musical Journeys – *The UUCSC Music Committee*

Whether we believe in a higher power or not, the ineffable power and beauty of music accompanies all of us through this journey we call life. Join the Music Committee as we share some of the ways in which music has influenced our journeys, both personally and spiritually. You'll hear some beautiful music, too.

July 7

"Boston Strong" – *Rich Evans*

An exploration of getting beyond the anger and finding ways to heal as a community when tragedy strikes.

OUR HOME IS AT LILY PADS PROFESSIONAL CENTER, 27 NORTH ROAD, PEACE DALE, R.I.



The South County Unitarian Universalist

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Karen R. Ellsworth, Editor

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

www.uusouthcountyri.org

OUR HOME IS AT LILY PADS PROFESSIONAL CENTER, 27 NORTH ROAD, PEACE DALE, R. I. 02879

(401) 783-4170 • uucscri@yahoo.com • <http://www.uusouthcountyri.org> • David Crockett, Webmaster

Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Minister

Services and Children's Religious Education on Sundays at 10 a.m.

We welcome all individuals without regard to race, color, physical challenge, sexual orientation, age, or national origin.

Staff Members

Pam Santos, Religious Education Director

Michael Galib, Music Director

Kathleen Carland, Administrator

Board of Directors

Steve Harrison, President

(vacant) Vice President

Harry Buffum, Treasurer • Susan Corkran, Clerk

Gail Burchard • Betsy Dalton • Barbara Pagh

Penny Hall • Nancy Rose, Past President

Committee Chairs

Val Follett, Membership Committee Chair

John Glasheen, Social Action Committee

Suzanne Paton, Religious Education Committee Chair

Carolyn Hurdis, Personnel Committee Chair

Linda Whyte Burrell, Paulette Chamberas & Lindsey

Crowninshield, Committee on Ministry

Marcia Boyd, Finance Committee Chair

Ed Burrell, Facilities Committee Chair

Gene Jolie, Adult Enrichment Coordinator

Susan Moreland, Music Committee Chair

Judi Marcy, Caring Connection Chair

Linda Whyte Burrell, Social Events Committee Chair

David Floyd, Music at Lily Pads Coordinator

Vikki LePree, Gabrielle Torphy & Melissa Hughes,

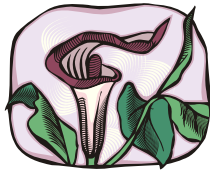
Hospitality Committee Chairs

Helene Gersuny, Worship Committee Chair

Roni Meyer, Flower Committee Chair

Contact Information for Rev. Betty Kornitzer

During the month of June, I will follow my regular church year schedule. However, from June 17 to June 22 I will be in Louisville, Kentucky, attending the UU Ministers' Association Annual Conference and UUA General Assembly. My final day at UUCSC will be Sunday, June 30. The last worship service I will lead will be on Sunday, June 16. I hope many of you will be able to join me on that day. During June, my office hours will be : Wednesdays, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to Noon, and other times, all by appointment. Days off are Monday, Tuesday and Friday afternoon. My office phone is 284-3321. For urgent calls, my cell number is 932-1515. E-mail (very effective) is bkornitzer@aol.com. Please be sure to call before you drop by during office hours. Sometimes I am called away on business.



The Minister's Message

By Rev. Betty Kornitzer

Endings and Beginnings

“The time has come,” the Walrus said,
“To talk of many things:
Of shoes – and ships – and sealing wax –
Of cabbages – and kings –
And why the sea is boiling hot –
And whether pigs have wings.”

– from *The Walrus and the Carpenter*, by Lewis Carroll

Of big farewells and gratitudes –
Of growth and lessons hard learned –
Of ‘People First’ and some mistakes
Of adjusted attitudes.

– from Rev. Betty

Well, yes, the time has come, the calendar says, to talk of many things. The days pass (as they have a tendency to do) and on June 30th, my nine-year tenure as your minister will end. It is hard to say good-bye. How could it be otherwise? I think I’d rather talk of cabbages and kings, but the calendar is relentless, so here goes:

Good Friends, Beloved Friends,

It has been great here, better than great. Serving this community has truly been the high point of my very full life. It has been so great because of who you are as a community and as individuals, families, committees, teachers in R.E., staff, small groups, service groups . . . The list of meaningful experiences we have shared is voluminous because YOU showed up. Hey, let's face it, I have a job here, albeit a calling, but still a job. YOU, my friends, volunteer to create community, to do the often-hard work of living into a liberal religious kinship that promises neither heaven nor worldly reward.

For nine years I have been the lucky person who gets to stand there of a Sunday morning and look into your eyes. I have been told that I “smile too much.” Well, I can understand that response, but what can I say? The truth is that this congregation and its people do make me smile. Like the hymn says: “How can I keep from singing?” Thank you for the privilege of serving you— and it has been that, a privilege.

I want you to know the magnitude of my belief in UUCSC and your future. This is the little congregation that could. You are feisty and creative and strong. I will be watching from a distance.

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Endings and Beginnings

continued from page 3

That “distance” is something I want to be very clear about with you. The UU Ministers’ Association has collegial guidelines that focus on the welfare of our congregations. In our guidelines, UU ministers agree that when they depart a congregation, they will truly depart, and a new (interim) ministry will arrive to serve. Yes, ending and beginnings . . . it is the way of ministry and congregations. You will have a new beginning from which I will be removed. I will have a new beginning in a new kind of ministry, most likely having moved from South County.

“And all will be well, and all will be well, and all manner of things will be well.”

– *Julian of Norwich, 14th century anchoress.*

I thank you for the privilege of serving you.

A Prayer Among Friends *by John Daniel*

Among other wonders of our lives, we are alive
with one another, we walk here
in the light of this unlikely world
that isn’t ours for long.
May we spend generously
the time we are given.
May we enact our responsibilities
as thoroughly as we enjoy
our pleasures. May we see with clarity,
may we seek a vision
that serves all beings, may we honor
the mystery surpassing our sight,
and may we hold in our hands
the gift of good work
and bear it forth whole, as we
were borne forth by a power we praise
to this one Earth, this homeland of all we love.

Blessings, Peace & Love,

Betty

Rev. Dr. Judy Smith-Valley to be UUCSC interim minister

Rev. Dr. Judy Smith-Valley, most recently interim minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn in Swampscott, Mass., will serve as interim minister for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County beginning on August 1.

Rev. Dr. Smith-Valley earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Thomas Edison State College in 1982, a Master of Divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School in 1988, and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Bangor Theological Seminary in 2001. She was ordained in 1989.

In 2010, she served as interim minister at Keene Unitarian Universalist Church in Keene, N.H. From 2008 to 2010 she was interim minister at First Parish Brewster in Brewster, Mass., and from 2006 to 2008 she was interim minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Haverhill in Haverhill, Mass.

Rev. Dr. Smith-Valley was the district executive for the UUA Northeast District from 2003 to 2006. She was minister

at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church in Kennebunk, Maine from 1993 to 2001. From 1988 to 1993 she was extension minister at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Kanawha Valley in Charlestown, West Virginia.

The UUA Transitions Office advises congregations that when a long-term minister leaves, it is advisable for the congregation to seek an interim minister while searching for a settled minister.

“Interim ministers are recognized for their ability to assist congregations in coming to terms with their past and claiming their new identity as they ready themselves for a stimulating relationship with a new settled minister. In order to guarantee their ability to speak the truth ‘without fear or favor,’ interim ministers agree not to serve beyond two years in any congregation, and not to be a candidate for the called position until they have been absent from the congregation for at least three years,” according to the UUA’s Transitional Ministry Handbook.

“It is difficult to overstate the opportunities provided to a congregation during an interim period. Rarely in the life of any human institution —congregation, business, nation, or household —is there such a chance to begin anew. The interim period following the end of one relationship and preceding the beginning of another offers such an opportunity, providing the breathing space during which a congregation can review its goals, assess its programs, consider the quality of its life in common, and ‘tune up’ for a new era. The one- to two-year period it usually takes for a congregation to grow into and own its identity, independent of both positive and negative feelings about the ministry that has come to an end, can be exciting, even transformative, when devoted to self-examination and institutional renewal. A palate cleanser, one might say,” according to the handbook.

Rev. Betty Kornitzer concludes her service to UUCSC on June 30.

From the Administrator

We have had a beautiful spring; the light lingers longer and summer is nigh. As you know, here at UUCSC the office will be closed after June 28th and remain so through July and most of August. Once again, we will rely on faithful volunteers to keep everything humming through the summer.

Mary Pinch will be the contact person for calendar questions and scheduling. Cindy and Jeff Berry will manage the incoming mail. The last E-Weekly Highlights will be sent at the end of June. The office will reopen at the end of August.

Please contact me at uucscri@yahoo.com if you have any questions about the summer schedule. Until then, enjoy the summer days ahead. — *Kathy Carland*



The President's Letter

Dear Friends,

This is my last contribution to our newsletter as your president and it has been an honor to serve this amazing congregation in this capacity.

I have had the privilege of working with an incredible group of people who again and again give of their time and talents as members of the Board. We have worked very hard on many different tasks to ready ourselves and this congregation for the next step in our “growing-up” process. We have addressed the issues of leadership and governance, and we have made the commitment to financial sustainability.

We take seriously that second sentence in our covenant, “Love is the spirit of this congregation

and service is its prayer,” and it is to this line that we direct our efforts in the coming year.



This is our community, this is our congregation, this is our building, these people are our people— this only works if we work it.

I am hoping that more people who gather with us each Sunday will consider how they can give back, pay it forward, honor this covenant we have with each

other.

There are lots of opportunities to serve, some highly visible and many behind-the-scenes and very important. How about signing up to host coffee hour, lead an RE class, serve on a committee? These are just a few ways we can put into practice those words we recite during each service. Is it time consuming— sometimes. Is it difficult— sometimes. Is it transforming— always!

I have learned much, experienced much, loved much, and been loved much during this past year. Thank you all for your support, encouragement, and joining me on the ride— it has been an awesome experience.

With great affection,

Nancy Rose

Bid Betty Farewell

Friday, June 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Elegant pot luck dinner, music, and celebration of nine great years!

Look for the “sign-up notebook” in the Community Room near the Social Events bulletin board. The deadline is June 7.





Religious Education News and Events

By Pam Santos, Director of Religious Education

I am so very impressed and proud of all the learning, community building, service projects, and spiritual development the children and youth of this congregation have accomplished since September. Each Sunday seemed to bring new energy, curiosity, and confidence into our RE program.

Among the most memorable projects are the Sukkot Hut decorated by the K through 2nd grade class, the 3rd through 5th grade kids tracing Ron Hayden as their “Goliath,” the middle schoolers polling the congregation, and of course, the powerful Youth Service presented by our high school teens. This truly is a remarkable group of young people. We are lucky they are a part of our future— in fact, they are our future.

Our congregation does not hold religious education classes during the summer. This is a wonderful time to embrace a change of pace, relax into our natural environment, and remind ourselves of the Seven UU Principles (in my own words):

1. Each person is important.
2. Be kind in all you do.
3. We're free to learn together.
4. We search for what is true.
5. All people need a voice.
6. Build a fair and peaceful world.
7. We care for Earth's lifeboat.

Beginning in September, we will be learning more about our Seven Principles, as well as the various faith traditions of our neighbors. This is sure to be an incredible year of learning. Please consider becoming an RE volunteer for one session— you will be surprised at what *you* learn. It takes a village to nurture the spirit of such promising youth.

Coming Events in Religious Education

- June 5 - Service Sunday. We will plant our backyard garden.
- June 9 - Bridging Ceremony, a time to recognize our graduating seniors.
- June 9 - Party in RE. We will create photo albums of our year together as well as a banner for our wall.
- June 9 - Food and Feedback, a time for families to reflect on our RE program.
- June 16 - Intergenerational Flower Communion and Rev. Betty's last sermon.
- June 23 - RE clean up activities to get the classrooms settled for summer.

After our RE summertime break

- September 8 - Intergenerational Water Communion.
- September 15 - Our first RE classes of the 2013-2014 year.

Welcome to Our Newest Members

The Membership Committee is happy to present to you the four new members who joined UUCSC on Sunday, May 5. We are so happy to have them become a part of our faith community and to grow with us as we forge a new future. Here are their photos and the answers they gave us when we asked them why they decided to become members here. Welcome one and all.

– Val Follett for the Membership Committee



PAT SCHOLMANN

“Being a part of of this fellowship is more than just having a place to go on Sunday. It’s a spiritual home that I take with me wherever I go and know that I am not alone.”

– Pam Schlomann



MIKE BURT

“Over the past nine months, I have experienced a loving community committed to growth and a sincere desire to embrace change and diversity. Personally, this spirit has guided me through my life and it only seems natural to continue my spiritual journey by joining the church.”

– Mike Burt



PATIENCE PECK

“My first contact with UUCSC was when I was housebound and Betty came to visit me. She won my heart and my mind. UUCSC has given me the joy of uniting my spiritual beliefs. I very much appreciated the warm welcome I received when I first came into this community, and I feel that I belong here.”

– Patience Peck



BARBARA GAVIN

“I love coming each week and being part of such a supportive and inclusive community. UUCSC has been a place of love and kindness for me and my son. I wish to continue to grow spiritually here.”

– Barbara Gavin

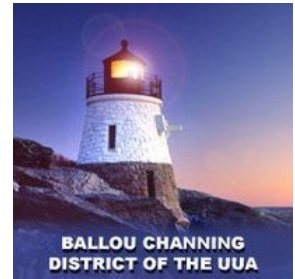
Charlie Donnelly elected to Ballou Channing District Board

Charlie Donnelly, a past president of this congregation, was elected to the board of directors of the Ballou Channing District (BCD) at the district's annual meeting on April 27.

The Ballou Channing District is one of 19 administrative region of the Unitarian Universalist Association across the United States. The district covers southeast Massachusetts, including Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, and Rhode Island. There are 45 member congregations, seven in Rhode Island and 38 in Massachusetts, with a total membership of about 5,500 Unitarian Universalists. Charlie was already serving on the board, having been appointed last year to fill the unexpired term of another board member.

The BCD board of directors consists of 14 volunteers who establish policies, sets desired outcomes for programs, and maintains communication between the district and its member congregations. The district executive provides general management oversight and administrative direction and serves as a consultant for member congregations. Other district staff members include an administrator, a program associate and several specialist consultants. Several volunteers serve as an auxiliary staff and on committees that provide services to congregations in specific functional areas.

If you'd like to learn more about what the district does, the website is <http://bcduuu.org>.



E-Weekly Highlights: Just the highlights, please

E-Weekly Highlights was envisioned more than a year ago as a way to improve communication in the congregation. We appreciate your recent comments and suggestions on how we can improve it.

Most congregation members now receive the monthly newsletter by e-mail, although some still receive paper copies in the mail. Articles and columns that appear in the monthly newsletter don't need to appear in E-Weekly Highlights.



Instead, E-Weekly Highlights should include reminders, with key information. If there is additional information you would like readers to be aware of, you can send a separate pdf document or hyperlink along with your brief item, and a "learn more" link leading to that extended content will appear in your item.

Here are the types of items you should submit to E-Weekly Highlights:

- *Reminders about events that will take place in the next seven to ten days, in the form of brief summaries that include location, date, time, and the name of the person to call for more information.*
- *Brief items that did not make it into the news-*

letter about events that will take place during the next month.

- *Brief items about events that are happening during the first few days of the month, when some folks haven't had a chance to look at the newsletter yet.*
- *Occasional urgent messages— for example, a change in the time or location of a meeting.*
- *Brief items about community events.*

E-Weekly Highlights is a work in progress, and will be continually adapted to best suit the needs of the congregation. Please continue to provide suggestions!

D4\$ Spring Edition: \$5,000!

The spring edition of Dining for Dollars, our congregation's biggest fundraiser, has raised a little more than \$5,000 in bids.

Thank you to the amazing folks who host an event time after time, and thanks to all of you who support this fundraising effort by bidding often and high!

– Nancy Rose





The South County Unitarian Universalist

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The South County Unitarian Universalist is published once during the summer. The July–August issue will be distributed the third week in July. The deadline for submitting articles is July 7.

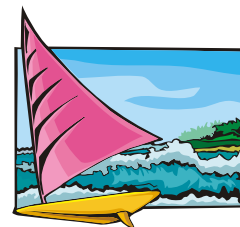
Good news from Ferry Beach

Good news from Ferry Beach Unitarian Universalist Camp & Conference Center, located on the beach in Saco, Maine, just south of Portland.

Spaces are still spaces available for you, your kids, or the whole family, in most of the conferences, workshops, or in the kids or family weeks. We have just put out more catalogues and pamphlets on a table in the Community Room. Please take one, or go online to www.ferrybeach.org, or speak to your local Ferry Beach Representative, Essjay Foulkrod.

It is my summertime “spirit home.” Maybe I will see you there?

– Essjay Foulkrod



A little help

The Agape Fund, created in 2004 with the Board's approval, is a discretionary fund the minister uses to *confidentially* assist members and friends of UUCSC who need help in critical areas of sustenance, such as food, housing and heating. A special collection for the Agape Fund is taken annually at the Christmas Eve service. These funds are available to those who could use a little help from their friends to meet their basic needs.



Throughout June, please contact Rev. Betty for requests for Agape Fund assistance. During the month of July, please call Rev. Ron Marcy, a retired UU minister and longtime member (and past treasurer) of UUCSC, if you'd like to talk about receiving assistance from the Agape Fund. It is there to serve you. As a minister he fully understands the importance of confidentiality, and he is experienced in pastoral care.

Rev. Dr. Judy Smith-Valley, the interim minister, will be on board at UUCSC beginning on August 1, and will administer the Agape Fund beginning at that time.

The PAT Team

The Lay Pastoral Associates Team (PAT) assists the minister in caring for members and friends of UUCSC who are experiencing times of challenge and transition. They supplement the work of the minister, thus affording a wider and deeper resource of attention to our growing community.

During June, call Rev. Betty (284-3321 or 932-1515) with your pastoral concerns, and she will speak with you and make referrals to the PAT when appropriate.

The PAT is distinct from the Caring Connection, chaired by Judi Marcy. The Caring Connection will continue to be a caring resource, offering support and providing meals, rides to church, helping those without transportation to get to the supermarket, bank, or medical appointment. Their caring outreach and is a mainstay of congregational life at UUCSC.

Saturday, June 15

Joyce Katzberg and Jimmy Warren

"Jimmy and Joyce love Johnny and June"

Celebrating the music of Johnny Cash and June Carter, along with a good helping of other tunes as only Joyce and Jimmy can play them.

"Jimmy and Joyce love Johnny and June" features Rhode Island based musicians Joyce Katzberg and Jimmy Warren in an homage to the music, lives and love of Johnny Cash and June Carter.



Cash and Carter's creative spark, rebelliousness, compassion and humor are the raw material of this show. Neither Jimmy nor Joyce will be attempting to look like or otherwise imitate Johnny or June but rather hope to bring new voices and a deep appreciation to the songs that the legendary duo loved and performed.

Katzberg and Warren have each spent decades on stage and bring a wide range of experience to their performances.

Pete Seeger said Joyce Katzberg has "one of the best voices I have ever heard." Katzberg has released two indie recordings on her own White Rose Music label. Her roots go back to the influences of her father, Jody Gibson, a rock-a-billy pioneer and all-around musical genre bender. Jimmy Warren has recorded with Cold Zipper, No Shamus and the Flying Ditchdiggers. Jimmy's song 'Mr. Whiskey' has been recorded and performed by many other artists.

For those who know Katzberg and Warren, it seems inevitable that they would team up for this show, as Joyce is appreciatively known as a "big mouthed woman" and Jimmy is highly regarded as a mighty fine "guitar pickin' man."

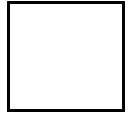
Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the music begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 advance, \$14 day of show, and are available at the Alternative Food Co-op, Sweet Cakes, and Looney Tunes II, and online at BrownPaperTickets.com.

Visit musicatlilypads.org for information about other coming shows.

After the June concert, Music at Lily Pads returns in September.

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY
27 NORTH ROAD
PEACE DALE, RI 02879



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

“Science has proof without any certainty.
Creationists have certainty without any proof.”
– Ashley Montagu (1905-1999)

Anthropologist and humanist Ashley Montagu popularized topics such as race and gender and their relation to politics and development. Born Israel Ehrenberg, he changed his name to “Montague Francis Ashley-Montagu” as a young man. After relocating to the United States from England in 1931 he used the name “Ashley Montagu.”

During the 1950s, Montagu published a series of works questioning the validity of race as a biological concept, including the UNESCO Statement on Race and his well known *Man's Most Dangerous Myth: the Fallacy of Race*. He became a target of anti-communists, was unable to obtain a teaching position, and moved to Princeton, N. J. to continue his popular writing and public appearances. He was a frequent guest on Johnny Carson's 'The Tonight Show.' His 1953 book *The Natural Superiority of Women* stands as one of the original feminist arguments against biological determinism.

He was a member of the Princeton Unitarian Fellowship.

Ashley Montagu was born in London's East End 108 years ago this month.