



The South County UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2019



Sunday Services

Sunday Morning Services are at 10:00 a.m.



June 2

Peace – *The Music Committee*

Enjoy a respite from the strife all around us—join in some peaceful singing.

June 9

Bridging and Bridge-Building: Love Across the Ages – *Rev. DL Helfer*

Being a member of a faith community, at its core, means showing up. We will honor the dedication and persistence it takes to turn a gaggle of independent-minded Unitarian Universalists into beloved community.

June 16

The Beauty of This Moment – *Rev. DL Helfer*

In a world that values productivity, it's all too easy to ignore our need for rest and nurturing. We will explore, observe, and practice that which helps us refill our own spirits.

June 23

Our Annual Flower Communion – *Rev. DL Helfer & Bethany Vaccaro, DRE*

Come and be part of this multigenerational worship, honoring the ways that beauty reveals itself.

Please bring a flower (or flowers) to share.

Nursery care is available for those under five years of age.

June 30

Envisioning a Livable Future – *Emma Bouton, Nicole DiPaolo, and Lisa Petrie*

Members of Sunrise RI and Climate Action RI will lead a reflection on how the Green New Deal envisions a future in which all people have the right to a good job, clean air and water, and a safe environment.

July 7

Diet for a Hot Planet – *Johnnie Rodriguez*

In production of greenhouse gas emissions, livestock beats out all of the world's transportation combined. Johnnie Rodriguez will offer seven principles for a climate-friendly diet from sustainable food advocate Anna Lappé, author of *Diet for a Hot Planet: The Climate Crisis at the End of Your Fork and What You Can Do About It*.

July 14

Helping Troubled Kids Beat the Odds – *Sarah Dinklage*

Have you ever wondered why some young people become healthy, responsible adults despite growing up surrounded by poverty, addiction and violence? It's often because they connected with an adult who cared. Sarah Dinklage, LICSW, heads a program that works to prevent suicide and substance abuse by young people.

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

THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Karen R. Ellsworth, Editor

Deadline: The 20th day of each month

Material should be submitted by e-mail to kellsworth6@verizon.net

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

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

REV. DL HELFER, MINISTER

Office telephone: (401) 284-3321 • uucscminister@gmail.com

Bethany Vaccaro, Religious Education Director uucscdre2@gmail.com

Michael Galib, Music Director

Karen St. Peter, Office Administrator uucscri@yahoo.com

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday

Board of Directors

Linda Whyte Burrell, President (2017-2019) • Mary Fulton, Vice President (2018-2020)

Mary Alice Kimball, Treasurer (2018-2019) • Linda Dupuis, Clerk (2018-2020)

Elise Bender (2017-2019) • Kai Migliaccio (2018-2020)

Dave Hurdis (2017-2019) • Natalie Herbermann (2018-2020)

Committee Chairs

Elise Bender & Betty Bogutt, Membership • Jean Bowen, Social Justice Team

Barbara Pagh & Etta Zasloff, Religious Education • Chris DePaola, Facilities

Marcia Boyd, Finance • Mary Finnegan & Nick Smith, Personnel

Susan Pavlow & Ann Seemann, Music • (vacant), Social Events

Betsy Dalton, Communications & Publicity • Dave Ruede, Stewardship

Johnnie Rodriguez, Worship • Heidi Kranz and Sarah Bell, Wellness Team

Karen R. Ellsworth, Weekly E-News editor kellsworth6@verizon.net

Johnnie Rodriguez, Coordinator, Music 'n' More at Lily Pads

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/UUCSC>

Betsy Dalton, Facebook manager

At the Water's Edge

Rev. DL Helfer



Dear UUCSCers,

As this congregational year concludes at the end of June, some expected things happen. Staff goes on summer leave, with the exception of Karen St. Peter, our office administrator, who works ten hours a week. Sunday services become lay-led, and a bit more informal at times—but no less wonderful. Religious education and our Music Director and choir go on hiatus for the summer.

Things slow down.

I trust you will find ways to engage with the beauty and leisure that summer seems to almost require. Soon, I imagine, we'll be in the warm, sticky days that encourage one to move more slowly, visit the ocean more frequently, and eat watermelon copiously . . .

But there's also the unpredictable that happens. What if someone is ill, or in need of help? If such a need arises, reach out to a member of the Pastoral Care Team and they will contact me as appropriate. The Pastoral Care Team members are Sally Barney, Joan Ray, Sky Kimball, Barbara Beckwith, and Cindy Berry. Natalie Herbermann, as incoming Board President (assuming she is elected on June 9 at the annual meeting, and I do assume that), is also an important point of contact in the case of emergencies.

But there's also the realities of the world that are with us even when not consciously so.

This year, I find myself thinking not only about the beach and rest.

I'll be finding more ways this summer to be of service to AMOR, to work with clergy to gather energy around the Green New Deal, minister for a week at family camp out west, and more. Not to mention practicing my Spanish— it's my intent to come back with at least some of my fluency regained.

However it is you spend your summer, I hope that the balance suits you— that among the needs of life, you find time to rest your weary spirit. And in that ease, too, that you find energy for what life invariably asks of us, needs of us.

May your summer be a beautiful one, rich in experience and memories.

With love,

Rev. DL

A final note from the President

Farewell! The end is nigh.

This is the final column of my presidency. You all have survived and thrived this past two years. I seem to have committed minimal damage . . . maybe even did a good thing or two. I tried to hug everyone. If I missed you, lemme know. I will continue in this effort.

One idea that I had before becoming president surpassed my initial desire. I had thought that to mark the 25th anniversary of UUCSC we might attempt to reduce our mortgage by \$100,000. As you know, members of our Beloved Community blew that idea up to the point that we have pledged that will completely discharge our mortgage in our thirty-first anniversary year! I love our enthusiasm and commitment to our community!

A wish and desire that I have held in my heart for years is to hire a sexton. They would work part time (maybe shared with another church, thus giving full time employment). A sexton would move the ice melt and shovels from the vestibule when they are no longer needed by the front door. Thank you to the dedicated soul who moved them away!

Cobwebs and drips and the occasional misplaced item and the

myriad tiny things that take a moment to tend, would be done over time by a sexton. Most of us wear our good duds to Worship so don't wanna' dust on Sunday; and on other days we are tending the myriad things to keep ahead of the cobwebs in our own lives.



So many things that sometimes get done, and sometimes go begging at UUCSC, might become part of a rhythm of tending to our facility by a sexton.

Even with the pay-off of the mortgage, it will take continued generosity in annual pledges, and careful balancing of expenses to pay for the increasing needs of our operation. We are a community of over well 200 souls— 156 members, and nearly a hundred

friends. A lot of services, beyond the Worship Service, go in to serving our souls: pastoral, printing, postage, plumbing, percolators, plus. As you know from your home life, everything costs more than it once did. We run \$5,000 to \$10,000 short every year in our budget-and that's just paying the current bills. We need to start saving a nest egg for the coming rainy days. Because leaders of UUCSC act so responsibly in managing every gift given for the greater good of us all, there is nothing about which to be concerned..But we must remain as focused as we have been these twenty-eight wonderful years.

I hope that things continue on in the strong positive way in which they are progressing now. I'll not be president, but I will be in the flock with the rest of you geese, honking like crazy to encourage those good leaders of UUCSC, who work with such commitment, dedication, enthusiasm and responsibility. Thank you all for honking me on my way these past two years. We are so truly Blessed, Beloved Community.

Peace'n'Luv to All,

— Linda Whyte Burrell

Welcome to our new members

On Sunday, May 5, we welcomed seventeen new members to our congregation with a New Members Ceremony during the service. A reception for the new members after the service featured a cake and coffee. In addition to the new members pictured below, we also welcomed Samantha and Caleb Seibert.



Jeanne Arthur



Barbara Holtzman



Grace Mello



Elaine Stannard



Cathleen Carr and Peter Hanlon



Kate and Raj Ray



Rich and Nancy Mooney



Mary Wass



Adria Evans



Sharon Ellery



Daniel Peltz and Sissi Westerberg

Volunteer at Rhode Island Pride Fest

Rhode Island Pride (<https://www.prideri.org/>) is a nonprofit advocacy group that supports equality and visibility for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. Rhode Island Pride sponsors Pride Fest, an annual celebration in downtown Providence that attracts thousands of visitors from throughout the U.S. and Canada. This year's Pride Fest is on Saturday, June 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. First Unitarian Church will have a vendor table staffed by volunteers, and has invited UUs from throughout Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts to help collect signatures in favor of a single-payer health care system ("Medicare-for-all") and paint faces to raise money for the Alliance to Mobilize Our Resistance (AMOR RI). If you're interested in volunteering to staff the First Unitarian table at Pride Fest, please contact Jean Bowen at jeannbowen@gmail.com.

**Each summer, we publish a combined July-August issue.
The deadline is Monday, July 8.**

Dining for Women meets June 4

From June until September, Dining for Women will hold its monthly potluck dinner at the home of a member instead of in the Oneto Community Room. The June meeting is on Tuesday, June 4 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the home of Mary Iacobbo, 49 Palm Beach Ave., Narragansett..

The grant recipient for June is Kakenya's Dream (www.kakenyadream.org) in Kenya, which will train youth in sexual and reproductive health and leadership skills. For more information or for directions, call Mary at 580-8098 or Gail at 294-6789.



Dance like Jane Austin!

The Wellness Team will sponsor an English country dance and potluck dinner on Saturday, June 8. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. and the dancing begins at 7:30 p.m. Dance instruction will be available— the dances are easy to learn. For more information, e-mail Sarah Bell at sarahbell@earthlink.net.

Summer staff schedule

Rev. DL takes four weeks of vacation and four weeks of study leave in July and August in order to return in September refreshed and ready for another year of ministry. During those months, you can reach Rev. DL in an emergency by speaking to a member of the Pastoral Care Team (Barbara Beckwith, Sky Kimball, Sally Barney, Joan Ray, and Cindy Berry). The office administrator and UUCSC president also know how to contact Rev. DL.

Music director Michael Galib and religious education director Bethany Vaccaro also will be gone during July and August. But office administrator Karen St. Peter will be working on Tuesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. You can call her at 783-4170 ext. 1, or e-mail her at uucscri@yahoo.com.





Religious Education News and Events

By Bethany Vaccaro, Director of Religious Education

Hello families + friends of RE,

What an exciting year it's been! We want to especially thank all of the amazing volunteers who have committed their time to our young ones this year. We couldn't do this without you!

Here's a few special things to keep in mind:

Come back for more fun in September

It's time to register kids for next year! You can do so online at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedCZifpLzkMer7bwkUGuBPZIQWQ2kskjDemGcNDS7G9JbbLA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Join us for some sweet services to end the year

On Sunday, June 2, we will do an outdoors service project. We will begin downstairs at 10 a.m. and, weather-permitting, we will collect trash from local sidewalks and walking paths. We ask that kids wear good walking shoes. We'll provide the rest!

On Sunday, June 9, we will be celebrating the tradition of bridging during the regular service. This is when we bless those graduating from high school and celebrate them as a treasured part of our congregation.

Our last day of religious education is Sunday, June 16. We plan to invite kids to choose one or two special items from the art projects they've made this year to bring home with them.

And on Sunday, June 23, please celebrate Flower Communion with us during our traditional multi-generational service to mark the end of the congregational year.

There will be no RE on Sunday, June 30, but we will provide nursery care for those five and under.

Enjoy your summer adventures

Please remember that religious education and nursery care are not offered during the summer months. You are welcome to use the nursery and RE space as needed, being mindful of leaving it as you found it.

Many thanks for a spectacular year!

With love,

Bethany

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



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

“Law is merely the expression of the will of the strongest for the time being, and therefore laws have no fixity, but shift from generation to generation.”

— Brooks Adams

Peter Charadon Brooks Adams, a lawyer, historian, and writer, was the great-grandson of President John Adams. Like his ancestors, he belonged to First Church (Unitarian) in Quincy, Mass. He was born in Quincy on June 24, 1848.