

The Quest

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
of Sussex County

MAY-JUNE 2021
VOL. 56, NO. 9



PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR MAY AND JUNE 2021

May 2: Really? That's Interesting. Learn more about the members and friends of UUFSC as they are asked to volunteer answers to fun questions that spark new insights to those we know—or thought we knew. It will be interesting—really! Led by Jeff Wallis and Barbara Kelly.

May 9: Healing Generations. Lives are shaped when ancestral memory and cultural memory of trauma or struggle are passed on to future generations in a re-traumatizing way. What allows healing in future generations, what helps to break the silence, how long does it take, and how can we, as elders, pass along wisdom and hope rather than fear? Led by Mary Tiebout.

May 16: UUFSC Business Meeting/Lessons the Coronavirus Pandemic Has Taught Us. Hear from others, as well as members and friends of the Fellowship, the lessons that they have learned from this life changing pandemic. What lessons have you learned? Be ready to share some insights that came about as a result of this unimaginable world event. Led by Jeff Wallis.

May 23: Emergence. Like the millions of cicadas that will climb into the sunlight when the ground warms to 64°F, we are gradually emerging from our Covid caves. At the same time, it seems that on a national level something new and good may be happening. Could this be true? Led by Mary Tiebout.

May 30: Flower Ceremony and New Member Welcome. The last service of our Fellowship year will feature two celebrations – a New Member Welcome and our traditional UU Flower Ceremony. Please have a flower nearby for our virtual vase. Led by Jeff Wallis, Hal Cohen and Mary Tiebout. For details about our New Member Welcome, see Page 2.

June 6: Picnic. Our end of the year picnic will take place at Hillside Park, Andover. Please see all details on Page 2.

SUNDAY SERVICES are VIRTUAL, on Google Meet, every Sunday from 10:30 – 11:15 am.

JOIN with GOOGLE MEET:

meet.google.com/kww-ugyh-spj

Or join by phone: 413-679-2794 PIN:139 523 137#

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person.*
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.*
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.*
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.*
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.*
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.*
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.*

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP

IN THIS CONGREGATION, WE BELIEVE:
LOVE IS LOVE
BLACK LIVES MATTER
CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL
NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL
WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS
ALL GENDERS ARE WHOLE, HOLY, & GOOD

Get ready for
The Annual UUFSC Picnic!

Date: **Sunday, June 6th**
Time: **11:30-1:30**
Place: **Hillside Park**
146 Lake Iliff Rd., Andover
(across from the Andover
Police Dept.)



We ask that you bring
your own lunch, wear a
mask when not eating,
and keep socially
distant.

Hillside Park has a large playground area for children (or adults!) and is very close to the Lake Iliff Trail for any who might enjoy an afternoon walk. Our picnic may look a little different this year, but it'll be wonderful to be together!



NEW MEMBER WELCOME

If you are interested in becoming a member of our Fellowship and would like more information about what that means or how to become a member, please let our Fellowship Support Committee Chairperson, Hal Cohen, or our Minister, Mary Tiebout, know, either by email or by speaking with us before or after the online services in early May. **Our New Member Welcome Ceremony will be held during our service on May 30.**

MILESTONES

Congratulations to
Conor Finley
who is graduating from
North Warren Regional High School.



ALONG THE PATH...

Dear Friends,

On Tuesday, April 20, I had just turned onto Nassau Street in Princeton when I heard the verdict in the case of Minnesota v. Derek Chauvin. I

wanted to drive through town to see if people were cheering. I wanted to honk my horn. I had tears in my eyes. But I already had my right-turn signal on, so I turned and headed home on a fully-blossomed Cherry Hill Road, listening to the NPR coverage that included a news conference from the Hennepin County Courthouse. Attorney General Keith Ellison, who, in May, 2020, just days after the killing of George Floyd, had agreed to become lead prosecutor in the case, said that this verdict was “not justice, because justice implies restoration.” “But,” he said, “it is accountability, which is the first step towards justice.” He said that the cause of justice is in the hands of the people of the United States and that “George Floyd mattered, not simply because he was loved by his family and friends, but because he was a human being.”

Attorney General Ellison called for “enduring, systemic societal change” and said that this generation can end racism. When I heard him speak on Tuesday, I remembered when he spoke at our UU General Assembly in Minneapolis in 2010. At the time, he was serving the 8th Congressional District of Minnesota in the U.S. House of Representatives. A former “not very serious Catholic,” he had converted to Islam while a student at Wayne State University, and in introducing the story of Jesus feeding the 5000, he said that in Islam, Jesus is “a highly regarded spiritual vessel and a prophet.” Ellison told the story about the crowd, and the small amount of food available to feed them as evening approached

- “a couple of fish and a loaf of barley bread”
- but people went to their houses, they emptied their sacks, they shared, and found

that, as with love, they had enough. There’s always enough.

And then Ellison spoke about justice, issues of the day, insisting that there are those who live out of fear, whose philosophies say they can throw people away. We disagree with their philosophy, he said, and must be strong and brave enough to stand up against their philosophy, but not against the people, who have the potential to change.

This link, <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/there-is-enough>,

gives the text of Keith Ellison’s speech at GA in 2010. It was exciting to hear the promising young Congressman speak then, as it was comforting and reaffirming to hear him speak on Tuesday.

I thought of you all when I heard the news. We have comforted, reaffirmed and lifted each other up during this very difficult year. As our fellowship year turns toward summer, I offer Special Thanks to Jeff for his remarkably steady and thoughtful leadership this year and to our Board members whose thoughtful and positive approach has helped move us forward in strength.

Most especially, I’m grateful to you all for your presence on Sundays and for all that you give.

Many summer blessings!

Mary



I CAN BREATHE
4-20-21



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members and friends,



Spring has sprung! And there is much happening during the coming months. Here is a brief overview.

Annual Meeting

The annual UUFSC business meeting is Sunday, May 16. It will be the first part of the service. Shortly, members of the Fellowship will be receiving the official absentee ballot via email (see copy in this month's Quest). There are three items on which to vote:

1. Slate of Officers for 2021-22
2. Annual Budget
3. Resolution on 8th Principle

As we did last year, members are asked to fill out the ballot and do one of the following: scan and email to UUFSCVote@gmail.com OR mail to the Fellowship at 1 West Nelson Street, Newton, NJ 07860. All ballots need to be received by Saturday, May 15.

Annual Picnic

The board thought that a nice way to end the Fellowship year would be to have our annual picnic, which will be at Hillside Park in Andover on Sunday, June 6 from 11:30-1:30. We chose this venue because it has a large, covered open pavilion with lots of room to spread out. We will be practicing social distancing and wearing masks when not eating. Everyone is asked to bring their own lunch. Drinks and an ice cream dessert will be provided.

Summer Coffee Hours

Our last online service before the summer break is Sunday, May 30. However, we will do what we did last year and have informal, unprogrammed coffee hours on Sunday from 10:30-11:15 a.m. which will be led by members of the Fellowship. See the coffee hour schedule below.

Although the pandemic has taken an extraordinary toll on our nation, our UU Fellowship community has helped us to get through it. My deepest thanks to all who participated in our online services, both as presenters and attendees. Your presence meant a lot to me personally. Seeing your familiar, smiling faces every Sunday gave me hope—an essential element when facing an uncertain future. I end my last Quest letter with a quote from Tom Bodett, "A person needs just three things to be truly happy in this world: someone to love, something to do, and something to hope for." Dear UUFSC members and friends, thank you for being so generous in providing all three!

In fellowship,

Jeff

UUFSC Summer Coffee Hours

10:30-11:15 am

Same Google Meet link used for past services:

[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/kww-ugyh-spj

[Join by phone](#)

(US) +1 413-679-2794 PIN: 139 523 137#

DATE/HOST

June 13—Hal Cohen
June 20—Hal Cohen
June 27—Chris Dunbar
July 11—Chris Dunbar
July 18—Mary Tiebout
July 25—Mary Tiebout
August 1—Stevie Fava
August 8—Stevie Fava

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Volunteers Are Needed for the Stewardship Committee

Help ensure the ongoing financial viability of UUFSC by joining the Stewardship Committee. Plus, have fun doing it – we're a good group!

The Stewardship Committee is responsible for the strategic planning and development of resources to support the mission and vision of UUFSC. We work closely with the Board to organize fundraising efforts that not only provide income but also provide opportunities for our Fellowship to be together in community.

Your involvement would include:

- Attendance at Committee meetings every 1-2 months, and
- Helping organize our major fundraisers (Spring Fling, Rummage Sale, Annual Pledging, special events)

If you are interested, please contact Barbara Kelly. We'd love to have you join us!



Don't forget our SHOPWITHSCRIP gift card program. UUFSC gets rebates of up to 13% on gift cards from more than 750 well-known merchants.

If you have questions, please contact Sue Weiner, or Hal Cohen if Sue isn't available.

AT THE UUFSC, OUR SERVICES REFLECT the diversity of our members' interests and the spirit of the third and fourth principles of Unitarian Universalism listed in the affirmation on page one. We are prepared to hear opinions with which we do not agree. We are prepared to hear ideas based on spiritual intuition or supernatural faith. We are prepared to hear the theories and provisional truths of today's physical, psychological, social, and political sciences. We try to maintain an ecumenical balance in our Sunday morning services. Our aim is to represent, over time and through differing views, the sincere beliefs and aspirations of all members of our congregation.

We try to encourage the full participation of everyone without regard to age, class, color, differences in physical or mental ability, gender, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, race, religious background or sexual orientation.

UUFSC NOMINATIONS & ABSENTEE BALLOT

Notice of Annual Business Meeting: May 16, 2021

Absentee Ballot

For the Fellowship year July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Voting instructions: You may vote either by mail or by email. If casting your vote by mail, please record your votes below and mail to UUFSC 1 West Nelson Street, Newton 07860 Attn: Board Secretary or email your vote to UUFSCVote@gmail.com by indicating your vote on the slate of officers and the budget. Those eligible to vote are members who have signed the membership book at least thirty days before the election.

The following nominations have been made by the Corporate Board of Trustees of the UUFSC.

Executive Officers**

President: Barbara Kelly (One 2-year term)
Secretary: Stevie Fava (One 2-year term)

** Vice president Marilyn Chapman and treasurer Hal Cohen will serve the second year of their two-year terms.

Executive Trustees (maximum of three consecutive one-year terms)

Stu Feldstein (second term)
Marcia Smith (second term)
Phil Schaming (first term)

Corporate Trustees (maximum one consecutive five-year term)

Jerry Sattin (fifth year)
Michael Busche (fourth year)
Brian Doherty (third year)
Chris Dunbar (second year)
Jeff Wallis (first year)

Votes (mail or email) must be received by Saturday, May 15, 2021.

Circle to Indicate Vote

Vote on Slate of Officers and Trustees Yes No Abstain

Vote on Annual Budget 2021-2022 Yes No Abstain

Vote on Resolution on 8th Principle Yes No Abstain

Name: _____



EXCITING GARAGE SALE COMING BACK TO UUFSCL IN JUNE

Our last garage sale (also known as “Rummage Sale”) raised almost \$3000. Much of this was from outside our membership. Our members are so generous, but outside funding is a big plus. I was surprised how many people I spoke to look forward to our sale. Honest! Many commented on the fair prices and variety of items.

I see it as a win-win. Folks get rid of items; folks exhibit pure joy at buying items.

The catch is it takes a congregation to have a successful sale—no point in an unsuccessful one, right? I have agreed to co-chair this, and I need a co-chair. Later on, we will need stagers, organizers, salespeople, cashiers and publicity. Our last sale had no down time because we had great publicity and signs.

Last sale we had several large donations of items from estates and members moving or downsizing. Can’t have a sale without items. Ask friends, neighbors, family what they would like to pass on. Collect, box, bundle—we will sell it! However, if you wouldn’t offer the items to a friend, don’t donate them! We run a quality sale. Weird, quirky, yes—broken, dirty, no.

The sale will be sometime towards the end of June or the beginning of July. Newton’s town-wide sale will be 6, 7, 8 of August, and we can run our *drastic reduction, going out of business extravaganza* then.

Please let me know if you have interest in co-chairing. It is fun, AND you get first choice.

Can’t wait to hear from you!

Stevie Fava

UUFSCL SUPERMARKET GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Please call or email Hal Cohen for your \$50 or \$100 supermarket gift cards each month.

Help the Fellowship earn 5% of each card purchased directly from the store, at no cost to you. Thanks! **Please note. Gift Cards will be available throughout the summer.**



THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL EARTH DAY ACTION



Jeff Tittle, Director of the NJ Sierra Club, brings the significant resources of his organization to bear on the life-or-death urgency posed by the TGP's destructive expansion into the area.

A groundswell of citizen opposition has arisen to defend against the clear and present danger to our precious environment posed by the intrusion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline (TGP) and fracking operations across our region.



Owl, a representative of the Ramapough Munsi tribe, addresses fellow protestors hoping to disrupt the ill-considered plans of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Expansion.

Determined protestors, including our own Social Action Committee Chair **Christine Dunbar**, make the case for stopping forever the harmful and permanent fallout from such short-sighted planning which is even now being challenged in state and federal courts.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

☛ Join with organizations that make protecting the environment their top priority.

☛ Call Gov. Murphy, 866-586-4069, and insist that he step in.

☛ Call Michael Regan, President Biden's new head of the EPA, (202) 564-4700.

☛ Let your local politicians know that this is at the top of your agenda, so they will put it at the top of theirs.



UUFS Social Action Committee Meetings

May 13th, 2 pm, Zoom
June 10th, 2 pm, Zoom

Join us at our May meeting when we will briefly be updating each other on Task Force activities and local items of concern. A short presentation about the NJ Green Amendment will be given.



**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
OF SUSSEX COUNTY**
Minister: Rev. Mary Tiebout
President: Jeff Wallis
Vice-President: Marilyn Chapman
Treasurer: Hal Cohen
Secretary: Susan Felsen
QUEST Editors: Richard Goffman, Susan Weiner