

The Quest

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
of Sussex County

PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR MARCH

March 1 "SHOUT! Poetry for Suffrage" Dr. Susanna Rich will present selections from *Shout*, a collection of original poetry and dramatic dialogues written from the points of view of core suffragist figures ranging from the 1848 Seneca Falls Woman's Rights Convention to the 1920 promulgation of the 19th Amendment, granting U.S. women the vote. Key figures retell the passage of the amendment as it comes down to one dramatic vote in Tennessee. More than 40 courageous women and righteous men populate Susanna Rich's first-person, present tense narratives that bring us into four-dimensional, you-are-here experiences of the 72-year fight for women's suffrage. As John F. Kennedy said at the inauguration of the Robert Frost Library, "When power corrupts, poetry cleanses."

Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 am, Sunday, March 8.
Turn your clocks ahead.

March 8 Parables of the Lost Following up on an informal request, we'll consider the three parables of Jesus in which something goes missing – the coin, the sheep, and the son – with greater

emphasis on the latter, including where this story appears in literature and, yes, on Fox TV. Led by Mary Tiebout.

March 15 Women Who Write Are Dangerous Any writer is dangerous enough, but give voice to those who have traditionally been relegated to the margins of society, and what emerges can be astounding. In a nod to women's history month, this program will honor and celebrate the contributions of six amazing women writers and their impact on society. Do you have a favorite dangerous woman writer? Come prepared to share her impact on you. Led by members and friends of UUFSC. Program Host: Jeff Wallis.

March 22 Sacred Waters Celebrating UN World Water Day, 2020; lifting up the 80th anniversary of the UU Service Committee and their work, in particular, raising awareness of people whose lives are threatened by rising, scarce or unsanitary water; telling stories of wise ancient people; and, most happily, welcoming and blessing, with water and other elements, our youngest community member. Led by Mary Tiebout.

March 29 Intergenerational Ethics Dr. Tim Connolly, professor and chair of the philosophy program at East Stroudsburg University, will discuss ethical issues involving relations between members of different generations. Such issues include care for the elderly, reparations for past injustice, and problems such as climate change that will affect the prospects of future generations. Program hosts: Lauren Jones-Rabbitt and Jeff Wallis.



A LOOK AHEAD... Apr. 5: *Zen and the Art of Community Maintenance*, led by Jeff Wallis.

SUNDAY SERVICE BEGINS
AT 10:30 AM

1 West Nelson St.
Newton, NJ 07860
973-579-7210



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.***



THE QUEST is the monthly newsletter of the UUFSC. For the most up-to-date information please visit our website www.uunewtonnj.org

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LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch will meet March 5th at 12:30 at Mattar's Bistro, 1115 Route 517, Allamuchy 908-852-2300

Please RSVP to Barbara Kolb by March 3rd so that we can give the restaurant a head count. Thank you. Home: 973-579-5817, cell: 973-879-5808 email: bajkolb@gmail.com.

DISCUSSION GROUP

On Friday, March 20, the group will discuss "Does our society have adequate mechanisms to call attention to, and to accommodate, necessary change?" We will meet at 10 am at the Fellowship. February's discussion of whether or not 2019 was "the best year ever" was, as usual, wide-ranging. We discussed governance, health, economics, and a plethora of other topics. Our conversation touched both past and present, as well as anticipating the future.

Here are some pending topics for future discussion group meetings. If you have a topic to add to the list, please let Mike Busche know.

- How do dictators come to power?
- Income and wealth inequality
- Ageism
- How pervasive in our society is "privilege," i.e., socially granted, unearned advantage?
- To what extent should legal protections afforded human beings apply to animals?
- What are the differences between "socialism" and "communism?"
- How will society change to accommodate the increase in public and private surveillance?

NORTHWEST NEW JERSEY TIMEBANK

northwestnewjersey.timebanks.org

The TimeBank will have our next potluck at the UU Fellowship on March 15, 2020. The topic is meditation.

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

The meditation group meets Mondays from 7:00 to 7:45 pm, upstairs at the Fellowship. Stu Feldstein is our guide at most meetings. All are welcome. No previous experience with meditation is needed, and it's free of charge. For more information, contact Sally Sattin at smssattin@gmail.com.

DUTY ROSTER

MARCH 2020

Flowers for center table: Volunteers needed for all Sundays.

Help with coffee hour: Volunteers needed March 1, 8, 22 and 29.

March 15: Soup and sandwich fellowship fundraiser luncheon (\$5 donation adult/child)

Soup for 10: Linda Hendrixson and three volunteers needed.

Sandwiches for 10: Four volunteers needed.

Please see Linda Hendrixson in the kitchen for more information.

ART GALLERY

The UU Gallery exhibit changes towards the end of March. The new exhibit will be a retrospective on the work of Herbert Tobias, a cousin of Roger Cherney and Carol Vermilyea.

Herb Tobias is now 94 years old and has lived most of his life in New York City. He studied art with Robert Brackman, Raphael Soyer, and George Grosz, and was active with the Art Students League. He studied at the National Academy, and has taught painting and art history as adjunct faculty at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

UUFSC GIFT CARD PROGRAM

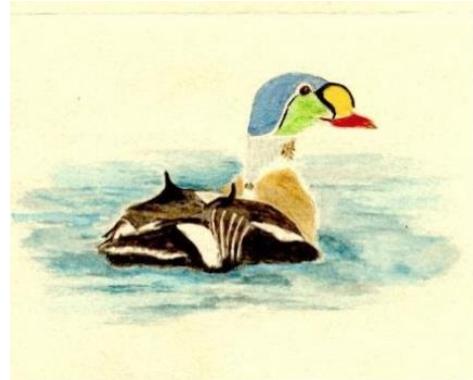
Please remember to contact Hal Cohen by Monday at 10AM to purchase the supermarket gift cards that you need on the following Sunday.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: For Fellowship closings due to inclement weather, all members and friends will receive an email notifying them of the closing. All closings will also be posted on our web site (www.uunewtonnj.org) and on our Facebook page. **If you would like to receive a telephone call notifying you of every closing, please contact Susan Felsen, Board Secretary (sfelsen2001@yahoo.com), or Jeff Wallis, Board President, (wjwallis@aol.com), to be put on the call list.**

ALONG THE PATH...

Dear Friends,

Just a few words, as I'm relying on our editor's good patience as I write and send this in past our deadline. My trip to New Mexico, though as always exposing me to some form of a cold, brought many new learning experiences, filling in gaps in what I had learned in grade school, high school, and two American History classes in college. One of the highlights of this month at UUFSC will be our conversation based on Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz's book, *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*, a Beacon Press publication and this year's UU common read.



One aspect of our upcoming conversation that interests me is, for former students, what you learned, and for former teachers, what you taught. What does culture teach us? Does material in the book contradict the many myths of America's founding? And what then? It is heartening to hear at least one presidential candidate include Native Americans on the list of minorities and historically oppressed groups in the US. They are not gone or invisible. Fortunately, Native Americans, despite governmental and private business efforts to eliminate them in earlier centuries, have survived, and in some cases, as with the Diné (Navajo) people, have thrived.

I've learned recently that at this time of year, birdsong is particularly boisterous or emphatic, as various species practice their summer songs. In a matter of days or weeks they'll quiet down, but for now, it's a pleasure to hear their loud chatter and music. And now that most of winter is behind us, we ourselves are astir with activity – Spring Fling planning, Social Justice organizing, Climate Strike gathering, our Cabin Fever Breakfast on Mar. 14 (all are welcome!), and all the community-building learning, work and play of our Religious Education classes – we're coming out of our winter caves and singing to the morning sun.

With anticipation of beautiful warm days ahead, even if we get a bit more snow, and with great thanks to you all for giving voice to humanity's responsibilities while being the living proof of humanity's best possibilities, all blessings of new life and light-filled days.

Mary

MILESTONE

Connor James McQueeny turned one on February 19. He will have his dedication ceremony on March 22nd.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear UUFSC members and friends,



Join us this month as we take time to reflect on the incredible and often overlooked contributions women have made throughout history. Two of our lay-led services will highlight these accomplishments. On March 1st, poet, performer, and teacher Dr. Susanna Rich will present her original program *Shout! Poetry for Suffrage* and on March 15, the program *Women Who Write Are Dangerous* will pay homage to six amazing women writers and their impact on society.

I visited the UUA web site to investigate the materials they might have about women's history month and was interested to find an article about Unitarian, Universalist, and Unitarian Universalist (UU) women who left an undeniable impact on history. Olympia Brown (1835-1926) was one of the first women ministers whose ordination was recognized by any religious denomination. Cecilia Payne Gaposchkin (1900-1979) was the first woman to receive tenure and the first to chair a department at Harvard University. Along with many scientific breakthroughs in her field of astronomy, her determination made incredible strides for women in the sciences. Viola Gregg Liuzzo (1925-1965) was a UU layperson and mother of five from Detroit. Passionate about racial justice issues, she traveled to Selma to participate in the marches of 1965. While transporting marchers in her car, she was shot and killed by members of the KKK. Today, she is remembered as a martyr for the civil rights movement. Margaret Moseley (1901-1997) was denied entrance to every nursing program in Boston because of her race, so instead she became a civil rights activist. She was a leader of the anti-McCarthyism movement in the 1950s and helped to form NAACP chapters in Massachusetts.

We have lots to be proud of in our UU history—and lots more to do to bring equality to all.

In fellowship,

Jeff

UU Faith Action NJ and Social Action Committee (Acting Chairperson: Christine Dunbar)

Upcoming in 2020:

Remember our weekly Newton Green Climate Strikes on Fridays, 11am – noon. These will continue into 2020. Dress warm and join us as we change the world one honk at a time.

UUFSC Stewardship Committee

Next meeting is Sunday, March 1, after the service (12:30 – 2:00).



You shop. Amazon gives.

amazon.com will donate 0.5% of all of your eligible purchases to the Fellowship, and there will be no cost to you. Thanks, and happy shopping!!

IMPORTANT REMINDER: When you shop online, please remember to go to Smile.Amazon.com. Once you have registered and selected the Fellowship as your designated charity,

THIS MONTH IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Hello Friends,

We welcome Women's History Month with some words from Hildegard von Bingen: "**You're a world. Everything is hidden in you.**"

Our "Conspiring Together to Respond to Global Warming" talk with Dr. Laurel Kearns received quite a successful turnout. Her discussion was thought-provoking and held the attention of many of our Bigger kids in attendance. Thank you for being there in support of gaining knowledge, skills, and strategies in our fight for Climate Change Awareness and the intersections of climate, environmental, and all injustice. We look forward to hosting two more programs in March that will be open to kids 10 and up.

Here's our lineup for RE March Madness (wink, wink):

March 1st: "*Shout!*" a presentation of the poetry of suffrage. UU Bigs will join us upstairs for a creative venture into the history of women's fight for the vote and our country's 100-year anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

History in action and art!

March 8th: UU Bigs. Lesson on Taoism and Eastern Religions.

March 15th: UU Littles. Lesson on Winds of Change Do Blow, concerning women's fight for the right to vote, and a craft. UU Bigs. UU Board Game Café. Please bring a snack if it's been a while.

March 22nd: UU Littles. Push-back lesson on Diversity Is a Big Word, a lesson on the Spring Equinox, and chalk drawings (if weather permits).



March 29th: UU Bigs can choose to be upstairs for "Intergenerational Ethics" with Tim Connolly, Professor and Chair of the Philosophy Program at East Stroudsburg University. Dr. Connolly will discuss ethical issues involving relations between members of different generations. Such issues include care for the elderly, reparations for past injustice, and problems such as climate change that will affect the prospects of future generations. If, as we get closer, we determine it

would be better to use this day to catch up on our lost lesson on Quakers, we may choose to stay downstairs.

Remember to join us when and if you can for our weekly **Climate Strikes on the Newton Green 11-12, every Friday**. You can also choose to support us virtually, by posting a photo of yourself on social media with a sign that says "I support Climate and Environmental Justice! I 'virtually' support the Newton Friday Climate Strike!!!!"

Continue to check the closed RE Facebook page for changes and updates in our schedule.

In service and solidarity, as we walk in peace and towards justice, Lauren



Cabin Fever Breakfast



**Beat the winter doldrums with stimulating
conversation and a warm breakfast.**

RSVP to Jeff Wallis at wjwallis@aol.com

**Saturday, March 14
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
UUFS Fellowship Hall**

Saturday, March 14 – UUA Common Read

The 2019-2020 UUA Common Read book, *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*, challenges readers to learn US history through a narrative that centers the story on the experiences and the perspectives of Indigenous peoples. Written by indigenous scholar and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, the book asks readers to reconsider the origin story of the United States taught to every US school child. The book may be bought from the UU bookstore and/or online. Led by Rev. Mary Tiebout.

IT'S THE SPRING FLING!

Saturday, May 2, 2020 @ 5 pm

The Spring Fling is our annual service auction fundraiser. During this fun-filled evening, we bid on events (dinners, etc.), trips, and some precious items that have been donated by members and friends. At the same time, we enjoy a hot meal, adult beverages and entertainment.

What can YOU do this month to make Spring Fling 2020 a success?

Mark your calendar to attend the Fling on Saturday, May 2, 2020 @ 5 pm. Invite a friend to join you. Bring the kids; there will be activities and snacks for them.

THINK AHEAD!

BE CREATIVE!

PLAN!

- ✿ **Do some research** into events and places that would be appealing for a group trip.
- ✿ **Consider social gatherings** at your home that you would enjoy hosting.
- ✿ **Survey your home for treasures**, such as items you have loved but no longer have use for and gifts you've never used that you would like to donate.
- ✿ **Think about businesses** that you regularly deal with who may be willing to buy an ad in the Spring Fling catalog, and/or donate items and services for us to bid on.

We depend upon the Fling to meet our operating expenses. Last year, we raised approximately \$10,000, and we hope to make at least that in 2020. Our costs are always going up, and keeping afloat is always a challenge. The income streams include admission donations, live auction bids, silent auction bids, catalog ads and "Shared Prosperity" (50/50) tickets.

Partaking of the social events and the services offered enrich our community by bringing us together in fun and interesting ways, especially during the summer when we don't have services.

**CONNECT THROUGH
PARTICIPATION!**



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OF SUSSEX COUNTY**

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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.