

The Quest

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sussex County

PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR MAY – JUNE

Announcements from the UUFSC Board of Trustees

1. The remaining scheduled Sunday services, which will be through the end of May, will continue to be online. It is not expected that the building will be open for regular services until next fall — or later — depending on local and state health guidelines for public assembly.
2. The UUFSC By-Laws call for an annual election of officers and approval of the next year's budget by a quorum of the members of UUFSC. The brief annual business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 17, just before our regular service, and will be held online. Members will receive an email with instructions on how to vote by mail or email, depending on the choice of the member. See ballot on page 11.
3. Even though our building is closed, the expenses to maintain our Fellowship continue. We are still paying for building expenses like insurance and utilities, and many other expenses related to maintaining our programs and offerings. Because we have not been able to have a Spring Fling, nor have we been able to collect any Sunday offerings or do any other fund-raising activities, like the soup and sandwich Sundays, our financial resources to meet those expenses are limited. If you are able and have not already done so, I would please ask you to consider a weekly, monthly, or one-time offering to the Fellowship. Instructions on how you can make an offering are on page 3. Any financial assistance you could give us would be greatly appreciated. Deep gratitude to those of you who have donated recently.

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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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FROM THE DESK OF SALLY SATTIN



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...
THE SPRING FLING?

For the first time in many years, we have been unable to come together for our annual joint effort to raise money for our beloved fellowship. Circumstances dictate that we make some changes in how we raise money, while keeping it both fun and rewarding.

While we must set aside the *Live Auction* feature of the Fling, we are planning to go forward with the *Silent Auction* and the *Sign-up and Go*. How exactly these will take place depends on the lifting of the social distancing mandate. In any event, both of these will be conducted online and, when safe, in person. And if we can resume services in September, we could display the offerings there and bidding can continue at the first 2 Sunday services.

So as you go through your closets and find treasures that you are willing to part with, set them aside for the Silent Auction. Research destinations for day trips that you would like to plan and offer. Plan dinners at your home. Consider sharing your talents with others by offering lessons in such things as computer skills, cooking, sewing, art projects, small home repairs, gardening consultations, etc. (These could also be offered remotely.) The planning for any of the in-person events will depend upon the lifting of the social distancing mandate. Details about the online offerings will be shared as they are established.

Please don't hesitate to share with me any of your thoughts, questions and reactions to the above. Thanks for your attention. Stay well and safe.

Sally Sattin, on behalf of the Stewardship Committee



WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!

The Stewardship Committee would love to learn *your* ideas for fundraising events that would be fun for our community and would raise much needed funds to cover the loss of income UUFSC has experienced because of the coronavirus.

What fundraising events have you organized/participated in with other organizations?

We will continue to try to do our usual fundraisers. See article above about our plans for a modified Spring Fling this summer/fall, on Rummage Sale article on next page. But these alone will not offset our deficit.

Please share your thoughts with Barbara Kelly.

Thanks for your creative input!

YES, WE ARE HAVING OUR FABULOUS RUMMAGE SALE

However, due to the pandemic we are not sure when.

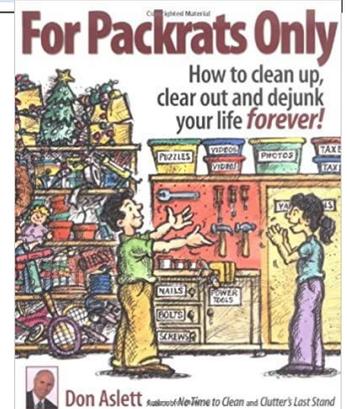
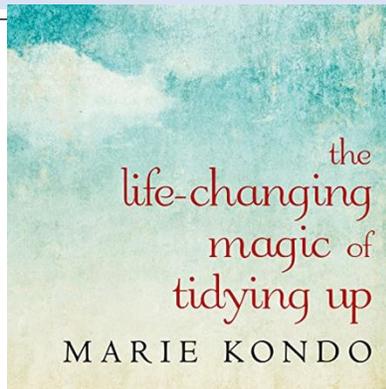
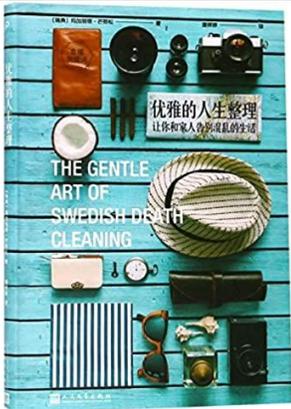
In the best of all possible worlds, we will hold the sale in August the weekend before Newton's town-wide extravaganza sale. We will have a repeat performance for the town-wide sale. Of course, this depends on easing of social distance guidelines.

I know you have all been home reorganizing those closets, cupboards, dressers, garages, basements and anything else to stave off boredom. Now you no longer have to worry about what to do with all the excess. You can save those treasures for the annual rummage sale! Let your extras go to folks who will love them. Keep those unloved treasures out of the landfill. Do your part to recycle and let others reuse. Help us make some money, which we desperately need for expenses. Just think, you can help set up and get first choice of merchandise.

My dad used to call these sales "the great exchange." Bring stuff, find stuff. We are looking forward to a successful venture. Stay safe, declutter, and control your anticipation as we move on to happier days.

Below are three books (out of many) that are highly recommended.

Stevie Fava



STEPS TO EASILY DONATE TO THE FELLOWSHIP FROM HOME

Making donations to the Fellowship is very easy to do from the comforts of your home.

You can mail a check, payable to "UUFSC," directly to **UUFSC, 1 W. Nelson Street, Newton, NJ 07860**. Please indicate in the memo box of your check the nature of your donation (pledge, offering, etc.) Our Treasurer is picking up the mail on a weekly basis.

OR

You can make a donation online, using either a credit card, debit card or requesting that your bank account be debited, by selecting the **donation icon** (see picture on right) in the center of the home page of our website at www.uunewtonnj.org. This will take you to our donation portal where you will find clear instructions for securely making your donation.

If you have any questions about how to make your donations, please call our Treasurer, Kelly Moore-Finley, or send her an email.



Your ongoing support of our Fellowship is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Your Stewardship Committee

ALONG THE PATH...

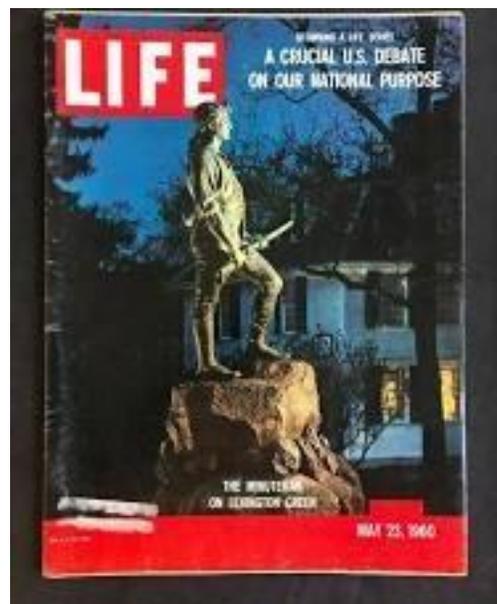
Dear Friends,

What a joy it is on Sunday mornings to see your faces and to hear your voices! Thank you all who have joined our online gatherings and all who have helped to make them happen.

Back in February, before going to New Mexico, I had to gather a long list of materials for my class. I needed to bring a used, dull, 3/8" cold chisel, different from the more common hot chisel. A person at an antiques shop in Andover said I'd probably find one at the big barn in Lafayette. No luck there. Outside a shop just north of Clinton, three guys told me that I was looking for a "coal" chisel, the tool used to break up chunks of coal delivered to one's coal bin. They didn't have one. But I did find, in my search, an issue of *Life* magazine, dated May 23, 1960. And I paid \$5 for it because it contained the first article in a 5-part series on "A Critical U. S. Debate on Our National Purpose."

The lead-off article names our founding national purpose as independence, and addresses later causes such as abolition, reconstruction, the New Deal, fighting two world wars, and the Marshall Plan. A year almost to the day after this issue was published, JFK announced the mission to send an astronaut to the moon.

On the news tonight there was talk about finding a national purpose, something to strive for beyond the virus. Great idea! The November elections would be a start. Next, and hopefully with a revived sense of purpose and possibility, we could go all-out to flatten and lower the global temperature curve. In that work, we would also address issues of climate justice, global income inequality, and the political influence of large corporations.



UU congregations and organizations, often in the face of great opposition, have worked bravely and creatively toward making the nation and the world more just and life-sustaining. Our Fellowship has, since its founding, been part of that work, and with neighbors, friends, and allies, we take pride and find meaning and purpose in carrying that vision and mission forward.

I miss doing that work with you in person. I miss our traditional spring events. But with greatest thanks I wish you all good health, good humor, hope and peace...

Mary

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear UUFSC members and friends,



“It feels good to be in a community. Community, above all, is bigger than individuals—we are something much more than individuals when we are part of a community. And this is how things ought to be.” Tony Blackshaw

Last September, we began the Fellowship year with the optimism that comes with new beginnings. However, we are ending our year in a place that we never could have imagined: social distancing, the wearing of masks and other PPE*, the cancellation or postponement of birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and events of all kinds, and an egregious assault on the health and wealth of our nation by a coronavirus. But through this all, I have been comforted by being a part of the

UUFSC community. As the opening quote states, it has felt good. At the September President’s service, a poem was read and some of the lines from it are:

Community means strength.
Arms to hold us when we falter.
A circle of healing.
A circle of friends.
Someplace where we can be free.

I don’t know about you, but I have found our Sunday online services have freed me from the worries of this pandemic, if only momentarily. And being together online has given me more strength than I ever would have imaged—and that from a virtual world that I have kept at arm’s length. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our Sunday services, either through organizing, presenting, or attending. It has taken a community to bring those services to life, but our Sunday gatherings affirm Tony Blackshaw’s words that we are something much more than individuals when we are part of a community. Although I have greatly missed being able to assemble with you in-person, I take away from this years’ experience something greater: the affirmation that we are a real community-- a group of people who share things in common, who work together towards a common purpose which they care about, and who care deeply about each other. I hope you feel the same. I wish everyone a safe and healthy summer. May the fall bring another new beginning filled with hope for the future.

In fellowship,

Jeff

**Even knowing what PPE stands for.*

THIS MONTH IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Hello All:



Our RE schedule for May 2020 is as follows:

Sit Still

Rise up (e.g., dance parties, walks, yoga, jump rope, call and write your lawmakers: “Fossil fuel moratorium! Green New Deal!”)

Watch for tree shadows and openings, blossoms.

Drink water, bathe in it, bless it, do your dawn and dusk ablutions.

Pray in all your ways — sing, cook, look, laugh, cry, free

the fly stuck at the window.

Hug trees, yourself, the people you safely can, your teddy or pillow, or puppy.

Notice the flowers, talk to them.

Look at photos of your ancestors in albums or in your mind, talk to them.

Read books and the sky and the grass when the wind blows through it.

Plant small seeds and help with the dishes

Make something: bread, cookies, a poem, a picture, tea, your bed, music.

Listen to the birds, ask them their names.

Do something for someone else.

Do love yourself, rest, nap.

Dream your hopes in both day and night moments.

Stay well, breathe.



The golden McQueenie family sheltering in place.

As our year has been physically cut short, and we’ve taken to online services and planning for the remainder of the year, I’ve been reflecting on last year’s closing service — all of the children’s hard work of puppet making for our play “Colors Moving Toward Home.” The character of the grandmother (played by Reverend Mary) wove her tapestry of colors threatened by disease and greed and destruction. Against all odds, the creatures (children) from the four directions, took the hardest journey of all, went inside themselves, found true home and vowed to stand up against the Dark Forces (along with the entire congregation):

“We will stay awake!!! We won’t go back to Sleep,” they sang as they helped the grandmother weave a new tapestry.

I will leave you with the final message from our play, the grandmother’s reading of Rumi’s words:

“Don’t go back to sleep

The breezes at dawn have secrets to tell you

Don’t go back to sleep!

You must ask for what you really want.

Don’t go back to sleep!

People are going back and forth across the doorsill where the two worlds touch

The door is round and open

Don’t go back to sleep....”

Yes....Stay awake. Work to save this earth. Work by being simple and not using more than you need. Put your hands and feet on this earth. Breathe. Slow down and see the world’s moving, vibrant colors. You can do it. You and only you. Together. Everyone can find home.

Everyone can be a part of the circle, even when it is difficult. Stay awake!!!!

Biggest love for all your vibrant colors, for all that is waking,

Lauren

NEED A LITTLE HELP?

Know people who do? Below and on the following pages we have tried to bring together resources that may be valuable.

1) Federal Resources:

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

<https://www.coronavirus.gov/>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

Small Business Administration

<https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>

Veterans Affairs

<https://www.va.gov/coronavirus-veteran-frequently-asked-questions/>

2) New Jersey State Resources:

COVID-19 Information Hub

Call (General COVID-19 Questions): 2-1-1 (24/7)

Call (Medical COVID-19 Questions): 800-962-1253 (24/7)

<https://covid19.nj.gov/>

Department of Health

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

Department of Labor (Unemployment)

<https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/independentcontractors.shtml>

3) Sussex County Resources:

Manna House

<https://www.morrisussexresourcenet.org/search/manna-house-community-soup-kitchen/>

NORWESCAP

<https://norwescap.org/covid-19/>

4) Unitarian-Universalist Resources:

UUA Safe Congregations Team

<https://www.uua.org/safe/pandemics/covid-19>

5) Shopping Resources:

Shoprite from Home (pick-up or delivery)

<https://secure.shoprite.com/>

Weis2Go Online (pick-up or delivery)

<https://www.weismarkets.com/weis-2-go-online-locations>

Many Families.
One Community.

Project Self-Sufficiency

Help us spread the word... the Project Self-Sufficiency Food Pantry is open to all families who need it in this time of crisis.



Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location

Project Self-Sufficiency
(across from Sussex County Community College)
127 Mill Street, Newton, NJ 07860
Building #2

How It Works

Go to the entrance and ring the bell.
A PSS staff member will bring out a pre-packaged bag of food.



This service is open to any Sussex or Warren County family; you do not need to be a Project Self-Sufficiency participant. Need help with other issues but don't know where to get it? Call (973) 940-3500 to speak to a Central Intake specialist.

Get help when you need it... give help when you can!

www.projectselfsufficiency.org  

Sussex County Food Pantry Information
Información sobre la despensa de alimentos del condado de Sussex

Information subject to change, check www.sussex.nj.us/documents/coronavirus-2020/food-pantry-update.pdf for most up to date information. Please call for times and requirements before going to the pantry.
 Información sujeta a cambios, consultar www.sussex.nj.us/documents/coronavirus-2020/food-pantry-update.pdf para la información más actualizada. Por favor llame para horarios y requisitos antes de ir a la despensa.

Name	Address	Phone
Aunt Marge's Food Pantry	Presbyterian Church 15 Lenape Rd, Andover	973-786-5094
Bodhi Monastery	67 Lawrence Rd, Lafayette Township	973-940-0711
Branchville United Methodist Church	8 Broad St, Branchville	973-948-3749
Catholic Charities	48 Wyker Rd, Franklin	973-209-0123
Church of the Good Shepherd	200 NJ-23, Wantage	973-875-0919
First Baptist church of Newton	110 Main St, Newton	973-383-9757
First Presbyterian Church of Branchville	3 Wantage Ave, Branchville	973-948-3495
Good Shepard Parish Food Pantry	48 Tranquility Rd, Andover	973-786-6631
Harvest House Lunch Program	37 Main St, Sussex	973-875-6445
Holy Counselor Lutheran Church	68 Sand Hill Rd, Sussex	973-827-5251
Hopatcong Westside Methodist	16 Maxim Dr #1911, Hopatcong	973-398-0846
Lafayette Federated Church 'The Well'	180 NJ-15, Lafayette Township	973-383-4461
Manna House	54 High St, Newton	973-579-6517
Meals On Wheels	Call to Apply	973-579-0555
Minisink Reformed Church	346 River Rd, Montague Township	973-293-3596
Norwescap Pathways 2 Prosperity/Degree Up	17 Church Street, Newton	973-862-6680
Pass It Along	Sparta	973-726-9777
Project Self Sufficiency	127 Mill St, Newton	973-940-3500
Samaritan Inn	901 Swartswood Rd, Newton	973-940-8872 973-383-7442
Sparta Ecumenical Food Pantry	32 Main St, Sparta	862-266-0563 call/text 201-306-6148
Sparta United Methodist Church	71 S Sparta Ave, Sparta	973-729-7773 862-266-0563
St Francis De Sales Parish	614 County Rd 517, Vernon Township	973-827-3248
Stanhope United Methodist Church "Pantry in the Glen"	2 NJ-183, Netcong	973-347-0247
Sussex County Division of Social Services	83 Spring St, Newton	973-383-3600
Sussex Help Center Food Pantry	28 Main St, Sussex	973-702-1922
United Methodist Church	38 Co Rd 515, Stockholm	973-697-6202
United Methodist Church	303 NJ-94, Vernon Township	973-764-3188
Yellow Frame Presbyterian Church	1 Yellow Frame Rd, Fredon Township	973-383-5364

Other COVID-19 Resources / Otro COVID-19 Recursos

State Information/ Información del estado	Visit/Visitar	https://covid19.nj.gov/
	Call/Llama a	2-1-1 (24/7)
	Call - Medical/Llama a -médico	1-800-962-1253 (24/7)
	Text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive alerts	Envíe NJCOVID al 898-211 para recibir alertas
Sussex County	https://www.sussex.nj.us/	
SNAP (food stamps) benefit requirements and allotments have changed, check if you qualify and apply at www.NJHelps.org If you are in need of food, call the National Hunger Hotline. Available in English & Spanish. 1-866-3-HUNGRY / 1-877-8-HAMBRE Hours: Mon - Fri, 7am - 10pm est		
Los requisitos y asignaciones de beneficios de SNAP han cambiado, verifique si califica y solicite en www.NJHelps.org Si necesita alimentos, llame a la línea directa nacional del hambre. Disponible en inglés y español. 1-866-3-HUNGRY / 1-877-8-HAMBRE Horario: lunes a viernes, de 7 a.m. a 10 p.m.		
Job Openings /Ofertas de trabajo	https://jobs.covid19.nj.gov/	
Unemployment/Desempleo	https://myunemployment.nj.gov/	
Health Services/Servicios de salud	Atlantic Health: 862-260-3199 Zufall Health: 973-862-6650	
Housing Assistance/ Asistencia de vivienda	www.nj.gov/dca/dcaid	
Utility Assistance/ Asistencia de servicios públicos	https://www.nj211.org/utility-assistance-programs	
Internet New customers with K-12 or college students in household. No cost for first 60 days. Nuevos clientes con K - 12 o estudiantes universitarios en el hogar. Sin costo por los primeros 60 días.	Altice Optimum: 866-200-9522 Altice Suddenlink: 888-633-0030 Charter Spectrum: 844-488-8395	



ANOTHER REPORT FROM THE FRONT LINES OF RETAIL THERAPY

by a NON-essential worker

Please don't think I like to promote Amazon, because I don't. But you can't really write about online shopping without mentioning it.

While being as quarantined as everybody else, I have in fact been working more hours than ever. "Distance learning," including teaching classes on Zoom, somehow leads to doing work for and with my students seven days a week. Yet, while I'm working more on my teaching, writing, building stupid things around the yard than ever, I also seem to have more time for wasting. And of all of the above, I am best at that last one.

The algorithms on Facebook are uncannily accurate. As soon as I started just *thinking* about the need for a little doo-hickey to hold my phone up so I can show Linda YouTube news clips over breakfast so we can get angry at events early in the day, I must have gotten 15 different offers for one. They varied in price from \$19.95 - \$65. Guess which one I ordered. Then there was the selfie-stick that turns into a tripod, a goofy new bacon cooker device, a copy of *The Screwtape Letters*, a bunch of Kindle books, wood screws, vitamins, Alka-Seltzer, presents for Margot, and... oh yeah, a new printer.

I really only mention all this because every now and then I get an email from the Amazon Smile program telling me that UUFSC was receiving a \$27 donation because of purchases I've made in recent months. Now, \$27 isn't much – half of one percent of my spending. But I'm only one person. If everybody's neurotic online shopping yielded 0.5%, sooner or later that could turn into some real money.

amazonsmile

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,

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 17, 2020 Budget approval & Election of Officers

Ballot

For the Fellowship year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Voting instructions: You may vote either by mail or by email. If casting your vote by mail, please indicate your vote and mail the marked ballot to UUFSC, 1 West Nelson Street, Newton 07860, Attn: Board Secretary. If voting by email, send your marked ballot to UUFSCVote@gmail.com. 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**

Vice-President: Marilyn Chapman (One 2-year term)
Treasurer: Hal Cohen (One 2-year term)

** President Jeff Wallis and Secretary Susan Felsen will serve the second year of their two-year terms of their respective offices.

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

Stevie Fava (second term)
Stu Feldstein (first term)
Marcia Smith (first term)

Corporate Trustees (maximum one consecutive five-year term)

Joy Daniel (fifth year)
Jerry Sattin (fourth year)
Michael Busche (third year)
Brian Doherty (second year)
Chris Dunbar (first year).

Votes (mail or email) must be received by May 16, 2020.

Vote for slate of officers and trustees Yes No

Vote for Annual Budget 2020-2021 Yes No

Name: _____

PLEASE NOTE:

This is NOT an actual page from any issue of The Quest, past, present or future. It was created, anonymously, late on a cold winter night in early March. How it got here, no one knows.

The Quest

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
of Sussex County
EXTRA! EXTRA! CORONA EDITION!

EXTRA!
VOL. 55, NO. 7.1.1



Remember when it was just a beer?

VIRUS SHUTS DOWN MOST KNOWN HUMAN ACTIVITY

FIRST TIME EVER: SPRING FLING POSTPONED!
ACTUAL KENTUCKY DERBY ALSO.
DUTY ROSTER: NO ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED.

WASH YOUR %!#-\$!! HANDS, DAMMIT!
JOYS AND CONCERNS? DUHHH.

Let's remember to check in on each other.
97% of our congregation is in the high risk category.

PRESIDENT SOOTHES AN ANXIOUS NATION
(FDR, DEC. 7, 1941, JEFF WALLIS, MAR. 8, 2020.)



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AT 10:30 AM

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



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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We, the 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.

It's kind of sad to notice that most of these comments and alleged jokes still work, though they were written six weeks ago. Yet, if you can't laugh, what are your other options?



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
OF SUSSEX COUNTY

Minister: Rev. Mary Tiebout

Dir. of Religious Education: Lauren Jones-Rabbitt

President: Jeff Wallis

Vice-President: Chris Dunbar

Treasurer: Kelly Moore-Finley

Secretary: Susan Felsen

QUEST Editor: Richard Goffman

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Webmaster: Gary Albaugh