



Newsletter



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South
Jersey Shore

Volume 13, Issue 04

April 2011

April Services

We meet at our UU Center, Pomona Rd and Liebig Street, Galloway NJ (near the north entrance to Richard Stockton College).
Services are at 10:00 am unless otherwise noted.

<p>April 3</p>	<p>Who Do You Think You are Fooling? <i>Lay speaker Jack Miller</i> Despite the fact that “playing the fool” is easy and natural for most of us, we still tend to leave the role to be played by the experts as often as we can. Is anyone thinking “I bet this Sunday's speaker is going to make a fool of himself?”</p>
<p>April 10 Blue Jean Sunday</p>	<p>Ethical Eating: A Vegan Perspective <i>Guest speaker Freya Dinshah</i> Logic, scientific study, and the guiding principles of compassion and ahimsa (not hurting) instruct a lifestyle under renewed examination for its value to individual well-being and preserving natural resources. The practical discipline of vegan living offers surprising variety and abundance. Many, including well-known personalities, are turning away from eating animal food products because of concerns about cruelty, the environment, and to benefit health.</p>
<p>April 17</p>	<p>The Last Week <i>Lay speaker Margaret Rea</i> This Sunday is, in the Christian calendar, Palm Sunday... the day that commemorates the arrival of Jesus and his followers in Jerusalem for the celebration of Passover, just a few days before (according to tradition) his execution. Margaret Rea, a member of this congregation, will draw on the book, <i>The Last Week</i>, by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan to suggest that the events of what is known among our Christian family, friends, and neighbors as Holy Week can as easily support the thesis that Jesus' death was the result of anti-imperial political activism as they can the more traditional thesis that the Jewish religious authorities felt threatened by the words of an itinerant preacher.</p>
<p>April 24</p>	<p>The Sermon on the Mount: Jesus' Political and Moral Discourse <i>Lay speaker Richard Grzywinski</i> In the era of Roman domination and Jewish religious elitism, Jesus Christ reached out to the commoners with his message of love and hope. Do the Beatitudes contained within his “Sermon on the Mount” as described in the Gospels still have relevance 2,000 years later? The Hindu leader Mohandas Gandhi reportedly said to the British Viceroy, “When your country and mine shall get together on the teachings laid down by Christ in this Sermon on the Mount, we shall have solved the problems not only of our countries but those of the whole world.” Focusing on the Beatitudes, we'll look at what is considered by many to be the most important religious message of all time.</p>

Don't Miss Our Second Annual

Blue Jean Sunday, Sunday, April 10, 11:30 am - 3 pm

Lunch will be provided for volunteers to give you the energy you'll need to give the UU Center a spring cleaning, inside and out! Sign up on the sheet in the vestibule, or talk to Heidi Jansch, Jesse Connor, or Jack Miller for more information.



Our speakers this month

Freya Dinshah, widow of the founder of the American Vegan Society (AVS), has been an officer with the AVS for 50+ years and now edits *American Vegan* magazine. She is a cookbook author. In her local community, she volunteers at an after-school program teaching nutrition and preparing healthful food with the kids' help.

Although the idea goes back centuries, the term "vegan" was defined 67 years ago when a group of vegetarians who rejected use of dairy products as well as meats formed a society in London England. The American Vegan Society (AVS) was founded by H. Jay Dinshah in 1960 and has its headquarters in Malaga New Jersey. The society publishes a magazine and sells books on vegan philosophy, nutrition, cooking, health, etc. An annual garden party (this year on Sunday May 29) features an outdoor buffet lunch, speakers and music. Periodically, AVS hosts vegan dinners at the Academy of Culinary Arts in Mays Landing.

Richard Grzywinski has been a member of the UUCSJS for almost six years. He is currently chair of our Ministerial Search Committee and serves on other committees as well. He has served as Board Vice-President, Manager of our UU Center construction, peace and animal rights activist, and general all-around volunteer. He has spoken to our congregation on nine previous occasions, created last years' Water Communion and Fathers Day services, and is a frequent Lay Leader. He was our delegate to the UU General Assembly in 2010 and created our Sunday Service around that event. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in engineering and an MBA. He is married to Cynthia who is a member of our choir and our occasional flutist and pianist.

Foolish thoughts

You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time. – *Abraham Lincoln*

You can fool too many of the people too much of the time. – *James Thurber*

It may be true that you can't fool all the people all the time, but you can fool enough of them to rule a large country. – *Will Durant*

You can fool some of the people all the time, and those are the ones you want to concentrate on. – *George W. Bush*

Saturday, April 30: A Labyrinth Workshop and Open Walking Opportunity

On Saturday, 30 April, Margaret Rea will present a mini-workshop on the history of Labyrinths with an opportunity to walk on a left entry, eight circuit, petite Chartres style canvas Labyrinth, on loan that day. The formal introductory program will run from 1 to 4 pm. Because the Labyrinth itself is more compact than a full sized (11 circuit) Chartres style, the group must be limited in size. Persons with prior experience with either Labyrinths or other forms of walking meditation are invited to come to the Center between 4 and 6 pm when the Labyrinth will be open for personal walking. Margaret will be available during that time to answer questions.

Details will be available beginning April 1 and a signup list will be available beginning April 3.

American Vegan Society Annual Meeting & Garden Party


Sunday, May 29, 2011

Outdoor Lunch: Noon
Afternoon Program: 2 pm
Book Room: 11 am – 6 pm

Amie Hamlin, Executive Director of New York Coalition for Healthy School Food will speak on Healthy School Foods: Success Stories from New York State.

Jay Mankita, guitarist, singer, and songwriter, will perform, including songs from his CD Eat Like A Rainbow. Acoustic guitar music will be provided by Reid Alburger.

MURRAY GROVE GATHERINGS
Monthly Coffee Houses the 2nd Wednesday of every month



Wednesday, April 13, 2011

Pete Wagula
Bottleneck Guitarist

For more information about Pete, check out his website at www.petewagula.com.

Doors open at 6:30 pm
7-9 pm entertainment
\$10 per person donation
children under 12 \$5

Report from Ministerial Search Committee

by Richard Grzywinski, Chair

Fourth Report

The Candidates

To date, we have received **only two** expressions of interest from ministers. On March 8, 2011, we wrote to our District and the UUA asking if they had any ideas as to how we may broaden interest in UUCSJS. We contacted the UUA again by phone on March 23 and requested an assessment. Notwithstanding that, we moved forward and reviewed the ministerial records of both candidates and decided to conduct phone interviews as soon as possible.

On March 10, we emailed an acknowledgement to both candidates and provided them with unique logon IDs and passwords to the UUCSJS “Members Only” web site. We then began an on-line exchange of information and responded to their questions.

We set a phone interview date of March 16 for the first candidate. However, early that afternoon, the candidate advised us that she had accepted a 3/4-time position with another congregation and was no longer interested.

On March 17, we conducted a conferenced phone interview with the second candidate. We prepared a list of questions and emailed them to the candidate in advance. In a Committee meeting after our Sunday Service on March 20, we unanimously concluded that the candidate was not suited to our congregation. We so advised the candidate by email that afternoon.

As of now, we have no candidates.

So What Can We Do in the Short Term?

1. Stay the course.

The UUA Transitional Ministry Handbook describes a “candidating week, almost always in April or May.” That is the week candidates for “settled” ministry meet their congregations, and therefore many UU Ministerial Search committees attempt to have their chosen candidates prepared to meet their new congregations before then, i.e., by the end of March. Such was the situation with our first candidate who received an attractive offer on March 15. We understand that following this period, coming upon us at this moment, many ministers begin their search anew. The committee intends to discuss this with the District and UUA.

(Reminder: We are constrained by budget, so we are searching for a half-time “Contracted Minister” who reports to and contracts with, our Board of Trustees. A “Settled,” or Called Minister, on the other hand, is typically full-time and has a covenantal relationship directly to the Congregation and can only be retained or discharged by the Congregation. However, a

Consulting Minister could transition to a Settled Minister if the congregation and the minister choose to do so at a later time. For that reason, we are hopeful that a candidate seeking eventual settled ministry may consider UUCSJS.)

Our search had only begun five weeks ago, February 22, and perhaps patience is the watchword.

2. Improve the Solicitation, keeping it half-time.

At our March 20 meeting, the committee decided to improve the description of the opportunity to make it more attractive as the growth opportunity it is. In that regard we redrafted the Congregational record by adding the following words to our Profile:

As a growing congregation, we are interested in someone who can grow alongside us and who can develop the role and responsibilities of the minister to the meet the needs of the congregation as we expand, with the goal of working towards three-quarter-time or full time in the near future.

Both candidates expressed a concern that the position did not have responsibility for staff. However, this non-supervisory preference came out clearly from our Congregational Survey. We added the following words indicating that a supervisory position **may** be reconsidered in the future, but not at this time, based upon future performance:

We believe our RE Director and our Sunday Service Coordinator would both welcome and appreciate the input and guidance of a professional minister, and we expect a high degree of interaction there, more so than with any other individuals or groups within the congregation. As to a “supervisory relationship,” our feeling is that such leadership is “earned,” not “assigned.” If a supervisory relationship is eventually warranted as the congregation and the minister both meet their goals, it will become apparent.

The revised Congregational Record has been posted by Mariann Maene on our “Members Only” web space.

The Long-Term

If our search fails to find acceptable potential candidates by the end of May, we will approach the Board of Trustees to discuss our options.

Richard J. Grzywinski, Chair
UUCSJS Ministerial Search Committee

“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is to live everything. Live the questions.” - Rainer Maria Rilke



The Paw Print

Your link to the doings of the South Jersey Animal Advocates

We have had another exciting month developing the newest group at the UUCSJS. We have continued our weekly collections for area shelters, planned and executed our multi-group protest of the rodeo in Atlantic City, and continue to liaison with local animal rights groups to see how we can help.

What we need now from our congregation is bodies! We hope that you can help us enforce our troops in the coming months. If you are passionate about animal rights, why not get in on the ground floor and help us develop an organization our congregation can be proud of? Even if the SJAA is not for you, everyone has an animal lover in their lives. Remember, you do not need to be a member or friend of our congregation to be a part of the rewarding fun SJAA has to offer. So help us spread the word.

There are a myriad of animal welfare groups in our area. The best part about our group is that through our advocacy program, you can help them all! Just tell us your pet project (pun intended) and we can reach out to that group and help with awareness, collections, and volunteer opportunities. SJAA is also a great tool for all you parents out there who want to teach your children about responsible pet ownership and respect for nature. Remember there are no dues or financial obligations. Everyone is welcome. So come check us out the second Sunday of each month at 11:30 am downstairs at the UU Center. **Our next meeting is April 10, 2011.**

What can you do? Easter/spring is not a good time for bunnies. Many of them are given as gifts. Then after the novelty wears off, the pet is then neglected or abused. Caution your friends and neighbors against this practice. Consider putting a donation packet to a rabbit rescue in your child's Easter basket this year. One group, *For Bunny Sake* is operated right out of Maple Shade, NJ. For more information, visit www.petfinder.com/shelters/NJ375.html for a list of needed items. Or write them at Forbunnysake@aol.com to see how you can volunteer or even adopt a new furry friend.

As the time for spring cleaning approaches, before you toss something, think about whether your local shelter can use it. Rescue groups are always in need of gently used dishes, bowls, blankets, towels, cages, pet carriers, leashes, collars, and dog houses. If you recently lost a pet, let their wonderful legacy live on by donating their things.

We meet the 2nd Sunday of the month. Please keep an eye on the MidWeek Announcements for upcoming SJAA events and consider joining our mail group: SJAACares@googlegroups.com.

- - Cynthia Grzywinski, Chapter Coordinator

"God loved the birds and invented trees.
Man loved the birds and invented cages."
- Jacques Deval

UU BookLovers for April –

Book Club to Meet at Borders in Mays Landing on April 15

Borders Books and Music in Mays Landing has opened up a space for visiting book clubs, and we will take advantage of this for our next meeting on Friday evening, April 15 at 7 pm. The selection for April is *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. Plan to arrive at Borders in time to order coffee or tea, if you wish. We will forgo bringing our own refreshments that evening. Carolyn Baum, who will lead the discussion, may well appreciate the change of venue!

Although Kathryn Stockett's *The Help* has been a big *New York Times* bestseller and a book club favorite, it is not without controversy. The novel is based on relationships between white families and their African-American maids in the segregated South of the 1960s, and there are some who have questioned Stockett's attempt to capture the black dialect of the South; she is a white southerner. And recently, a black woman, Ablene Cooper, has sued the author, claiming Stockett used her name and likeness without permission as the basis for the character of the black servant, "Aibileen."

"This is a beautifully written work of fiction and we don't think there is any basis to the legal claims," Penguin USA publisher Amy Einhorn said, as quoted by the Associated Press. *The Help* debuted in 2009 and there are 2.5 million hardcover copies in print in the U.S., according to the publisher. The paperback edition is due out April 5 and can be pre-ordered from Borders and other sources.

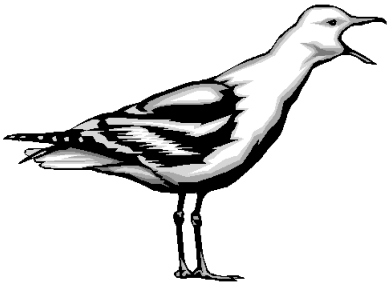
The thirteen of us who gathered recently to discuss John McPhee's *The Pine Barrens*, were gratified by Jack Connor's knowledgeable and easy presence and by Jesse's still-warm homemade cranberry cake. The evening was further enriched by the personal tales of some who attended. Merci!

On May 20 we will be back at the UU Center to talk about *The World Without Us* by Alan Weisman. "A fascinating nonfiction eco-thriller . . ." "Extraordinarily farsighted and passionate." "Grandly entertaining." This is just a sample of the enticing blurbs. Join us as Marsha Hannah shares her enthusiasm for this book by award-winning journalist Weisman, whose reports have appeared in *Harpers*, *The NYT Magazine*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Discover* and *Orion*, among others. To join the book club and receive meeting reminders and other literary notices, contact Judy Pereira, or – just arrive!

I would be most content if my children grew up to be the kind of people who think decorating consists mostly of building enough bookshelves. ~Anna Quindlen, "Enough Bookshelves," *New York Times*, 7 August 1991

I find television to be very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go in the other room and read a book. ~Groucho Marx

2011 Birding B&B



Yes, everyone, there will be a Birding B&B this year! For any newcomers in the congregation, this is an annual fundraising event where we invite people to come to South Jersey and take them to popular birding sites. It will be held from Friday

May 13 through Sunday May 15. Longtime coordinators Betsy and John Searight have retired from their birding duties, and have passed the job on to a committee of 6. Prim Reeves is the chair of the committee.

All that's needed are **many people who are willing to do a small part**, instead of a few doing a lot.

How can you help?

- We need people to help coordinate the Friday evening "welcome" dinner. This involves coordinating the food, setting up, serving and cleaning up as well as working with the Birding Guides to get packets distributed to the guests as they arrive.
- We need people willing to host the Birding Guests (a single or couple in each home) for 2 nights and provide them with a simple breakfast. Host families should live in Galloway, Egg Harbor Township, Mays Landing, Northfield, Linwood or Somers Point. Upper Township and Lower Burlington County folks may be considered.
- We need a few families to host the Saturday night dinners. Most families would host between 5 and 8 people.
- We need one or two people to pick up sandwiches and drinks for the Saturday afternoon lunch and take it to a location designated by the Birding Guides.
- We will also be inviting everyone in the congregation to contribute to an annual post Sunday Service brunch on the 15th, which serves as a send off to our Birding Guests.

If you can help in any of these ways, please contact Prim Reeves, Marsha Hannah, or Melissa Hutchison.

Leeks, Bok Choy, Parsnips: try a new veggie this month!

Buy **Gift Cards** any Sunday for **Acme & Shoprite**.

Using these gift cards for groceries nets the congregation 5%.

We also have Fair Trade coffee, tea, and chocolate!



From *Monkey Mind*, the blog of James Ford, a Soto Zen priest and Unitarian Universalist minister, at the Boundless Way Zen Network and First Unitarian Church in Providence, Rhode Island.

Spiritual but not Religious?

Ford writes: People are increasingly identifying as spiritual but not religious.

[They] are concerned with spiritual questions of meaning, purpose, the healing of hurt. But they have decreasing confidence in the institutions that traditionally have delivered answers to those questions. Actually, they have next to no confidence in churches.

We are at a time of crisis. And we are at a time of opportunity.

Ford says, here's what you do:

The first is get a spiritual practice. There are tons out there. I recommend the base line discipline of sit down, shut up and pay attention. I find it best expressed in zazen, the form of meditation taught at Zen centers.

Pay attention. And, don't know.

And the second thing.

Join a UU church.

To paraphrase Will Rogers, I don't belong to an organized religion, I'm a Unitarian Universalist.

They can be a real pain. The people can as smug about rational religion as others are about believing ten impossible things before breakfast. Often the ministers are as self-important as Zen priests, with perhaps even less to be inflated about. But, even a blind pig can stumble upon a truffle, and I've found wisdom spoken from pretty much every UU pulpit at every UU church I've ever visited. But the deal isn't really the minister, good, bad or indifferent, it's the community.

It's all about the community.

There's something really important about people on a spiritual path coming together regularly with others. In some ways it can even substitute for the spiritual director.

The truth is we need each other. We need others, good, bad and indifferent.

Together we get out of all sorts of traps. (And, yes, there are new traps with community, so pick carefully.)

We desperately need others, if we hope to grow spiritually.

The human ego is not a pretty thing to behold in isolation. We need each other. We need our rough edges bumped against, and worn down a little.

And little does this as well as throwing one's self into a spiritual community.

Now there's more than joining a church and bringing along your practice.

Once you join that church, do things. Join the choir. Get on the social justice committee. Teach a religious education class.

Have a life with people beyond the confines of family or a small circle of friends.

More of that rubbing up against, more of that getting rough edges knocked off.

Expect to have fun. Expect to be hurt. You aren't really a member of a church until you've been disappointed or deeply hurt and you still come.

Stretch.

Get bigger.

Become.

That's the way of the spiritual, religious or not.

<http://monkeymindonline.blogspot.com/2011/02/for-spiritual-but-not-religious-two.html>

Children's Religious Education

Spring into Children's Religious Education

As the season changes, bringing warmer days, we welcome, with wonder, the new life that sprouts up all around us.

In our Children's Religious Education program, we are experiencing changes as well. We are preparing to bid farewell to our oldest RE students as they plan for graduation from high school and for our very first official Bridging Ceremony on June 12. We are saddened by their leaving, while at the same time, we are welcoming with anticipation new students just beginning their UU religious education journeys. Over the past few months, there has been a resurgence of energy in our youngest (SpiritPlay) class; this class, often canceled in the past for low attendance, now seems to be blossoming. Our toddler room, often vacant for weeks at a time, has been consistently "open for business" lately, and there are joyful announcements from a few members that there are even more little ones "on the way."

As we proceed together through life's changes, our Children's RE program has been fortunate to have the help of those who value participating in religious education – those adults who have discovered that nurturing another's spiritual growth can lead to self fulfillment. When adults participate in Children's RE, they assure that the principles we affirm and promote will live on through many seasons after we are gone.

We invite you to come and grow with us in Children's RE.

-- Heidi Jansch, Director of Religious Education

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

An exciting seminar entitled "**12 Stages of Healing**" presented by **Dr. Theresa McReynolds** will be held on **Saturday April 9, 2011 at the UU Center from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm**, with registration beginning at 9 am. This is an extraordinary new approach to healing the mind and body. You will explore the four sacred seasons of the healing journey: Discover, Transform, Awaken and Integrate.

You'll learn to fully direct your attention and awareness to your body, without distraction. Tuning into your body's naturally occurring rhythms will help you to know your own vibrational story. Somato Respiratory Integration exercises will be your vehicle for this transformational, life-changing program. Heightened self-awareness and enhanced healing capability are gifts you will return home with. Sign up sheets will be at the back of the sanctuary after services.

Look for information on the following, beginning in May:

Discover Your Ministry: 4 weeks, starts May 2011.

Building Your Own Theology: Starts September 2011.

Articulating Your UU Faith: Late fall 2011.

– Marsha Hannah

UUCSJS Women's Association Meetings

Margaret Fuller Circle - Thursday, April 7, 1 pm

The Margaret Circle will meet Thursday, April 7, in the Center's Library at 1:00 p.m.

We open the meeting by sharing any points of interest in our lives followed by refreshments, then at 2 pm enjoy our topic of discussion.

All the women of the congregation are cordially invited to join us and that guests are always welcome at all our functions! If you are interested or have any questions about this group, please contact Arlene Yacka, Circle leader.

Olympia Brown Circle – Thursday, April 14, 6 pm

We will continue on with our mission to support local "Mom and Pop" restaurants. This month our meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14 at 6 pm, at the Rama Thai Restaurant at the English Creek Shopping Center on the Black Horse Pike in Egg Harbor Township. For their menu you can visit their website at: www.ramathainj.com.

While we are waiting for our food we will be looking over the results of "The Happiness Quiz" that aired on Oprah's TV Show on March 23. We're hoping to see some new faces this time; we had a great time last month. Feel free to bring a guest along with you. Contact Marsha Hannah, Circle Leader if you plan to attend or if you have any questions.

Women's Spirituality Circle - Sunday April 17, 11:30

Our study group will be starting the last part of Elizabeth Lesser's *A Seeker's Guide*. This month we will be reading and discussing Chapter 14 - Soulfulness, pages 321-337.

We will be meeting on the third Sunday at 11:30, since Easter Sunday falls on our regular meeting time (4th Sunday).

You do not need a copy of the book, although it is recommended. We have a time of sharing before the discussion and newcomers often share very interesting comments that lead to open discussion. If you are interested in attending this group talk to Kathryn Kelley, Circle Leader, she will be very happy to answer any questions.

All women of the congregation are welcome at these meetings. It's a good way to get to know other women in our congregation better and gives us a chance to get to know you. Please consider attending.

Is our community alive?

Living churches always have a parking problem; dying churches don't.
Living churches are constantly changing their methods; dying churches don't have to. Living churches have lots of noisy kids; dying churches are quiet.
Living churches grow so fast you forget people's names; in dying churches you've known everyone's names for years.

from *Interconnections*, a UUA blog at tipsheet.blogs.uua.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SOCIAL JUSTICE?

For the past several days, I have been mulling over our recent Sunday Service about volunteering in the Peace Corps. Several things really inspired me but the one thing that really hit home was the reading of JFK's speech when he encouraged Americans to not "ask what our country can do for them but ask what they can do for the country." I have been reflecting on how this quote can also apply to us as a congregation. As an individual, do I ask what my congregation can do for me? Or, do I ask what I can do for my congregation? As a congregation, do we ask what our community can do for us? Or, do we ask what we can do for our community?

I believe a healthy balance of both should be achieved- which isn't the easiest thing to do! I openly admit that some of the events or activities offered within the congregation would require me to push myself "out of my comfort zone" but this would be a positive thing! As the Social Justice Committee chair, I would like to see more of the congregation's involvement in the community -- actually doing things to benefit our neighbors. Directly, hands-on. However, a handful of members from our committee engaged in the community is not enough to get the job done! We need your individual participation to be successful. To be quite frank, we as a committee have not really provided you with many opportunities until now. For this, I apologize. We do not want only to invite you to our events- as a guest- but rather know that you are an active participant in those events! It is my goal to start that change. So the next question you surely have is, What can I do?

Here are some examples that may interest you and/or take you past your comfort zone:

On March 27 and April 17 our congregation will be participating in **cleaning Pomona Rd.** All materials are provided. All you need to do is remember to wear some comfortable clothes and shoes. Save the Date.

Within the next few weeks, our congregation will have an opportunity to help with a **Habitat for Humanity** house in Whitesboro. We will need people to build a raised bed, install a clothesline and plant some veggies. By doing so, we are engaging in supporting environmental justice. Many low income families do not have the opportunity or experience in growing their own food or caring for the environment. We can help change that statistic. See Kyle Jones to participate or email social.justice.uucsjs@gmail.com.

On Wednesday, May 25 **Richard Stockton College** will be hosting a **NJ Master Energy Plan Public Hearing**. My goal is to have our congregation strongly represented that day to show our unwavering demand for clean, renewable energy. Come wearing your UU t-shirts! This has been re-scheduled once so please keep an eye out for possible future changes.

On Saturday, April 16 our congregation will be tabling at **Stockton's Annual Environmental Forum** with the theme "**Renewable is Doable**". During the day, there will be

someone experienced manning the table. Other congregation members are needed to help with the table and provide a bathroom break if needed. This event benefits the entire congregation! If you desire to participate, see Angela Jones or email social.justice.uucsjs@gmail.com.

On Sunday April 10 the Social Justice Committee along with the South Jersey Animal Advocates will be hosting the Sunday speaker from the **American Vegan Society**. Can you sign up to provide a vegan snack, lunch contribution, or dessert? Can you invite family and friends and spread the word?

We will also be hosting the **Native Plant and Sale** on Saturday, May 7. Have you signed up to help collect money, accept and exchange plants, or other form of volunteering for that event? Even if you can't volunteer, have you placed your pre-order yet for shrubs, trees, or potted plants? Order forms are at the Social Justice table. See Jesse Connor to volunteer or email social.justice.uucsjs@gmail.com. Remember, this is a big fundraiser for the congregation which benefits us all!

Many members of the congregation have also had their communities pass resolutions against the **PurGen Coal Plant**. Egg Harbor City and Somers Point have just gotten on board. Does that interest you? Are you an activist at heart or are you willing to push beyond your comfort zone? If so, email social.justice.uucsjs@gmail.com and information regarding approaching your community leaders can be provided.

Have you signed up for clean, green **Viridian Energy** yet? You can do your part and help the environment while financially contributing to your congregation. Sign-up forms are on the Social Justice table. Questions can be addressed by sending them to social.justice.uucsjs@gmail.com.

In addition, have you signed up on **Facebook** to be a fan of UUCSJS's Social Justice Committee? A quick search can pull us up. This is the easiest way to stay informed of our activities!

These activities and events are by no means exhaustive! They are suggested and supported by the Social Justice Committee but are for the benefit of the congregation and community. Our hope is that they are also an important part of the fabric of the congregation. These are only a sampling of what we have in store. Will you ask what you can do for the congregation? Our team does hope so!

Angela Jones, Social Justice Chair

Green Tip for the Month: Now is the time to install and use a solar clothes drying device: the everyday garden variety clothesline! Did you know your dryer will emit approximately 1 metric ton of CO2 emissions in one year? If non-clothesline users started to use a clothesline we, in America, could reduce our CO2 emissions by 12 million tons annually! Save the world one clothesline at a time!

Newsletter submission deadline: the Friday before the last Sunday of the month.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

Minister
vacant

**Music Director &
Sunday Service Coordinator**
Barbara Miller
uucsjsmusic@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education
Heidi Jansch
sjsdre@gmail.com

Operations Manager
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Newsletter
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Electronic Communications
Sharon Gray
uucsjs@yahoo.com

Board of Trustees 2010-11
Debbi Dagavarian, Jim Gentile, Primrose Reeves,
John Searight, Joe Terrazzini, Karen York, Karen Zindell



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April 2011

Visit us on the Web: www.uucsjs.org

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