



Newsletter



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

Volume 14, Issue 03

March 2012

March Services "Justice"

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>March 4</p>	<p>Social Justice From the Underside <i>Lay Speaker Stephanie Garrett</i></p> <p>In recognition of Women's history Month, we will take a Look at "Social Justice from the Underside", women in general and women of color. Historically, with few exceptions, women have been viewed as a second tier under male superiority and domination. Women of color, at least in the United States, were considered the 4th tier with the minority male as the third. At an early point in history we had power. Religion, dogma and theology, including our own Unitarian Universalists, defined social justice and the role of the woman. They still do.</p>
<p>March 11</p>	<p>Were You There? <i>Pastor Charlie Dieterich</i></p> <p>This title comes from an old hymn about the crucifixion of Jesus... The Bible teaches us that none of the disciples were there to see it. I'm not going to concentrate on the biblical story, but instead investigate why Mahatma Gandhi loved this hymn so much. What terrifies you about today's Social Justice work?</p>
<p>March 18</p>	<p>Salvation and Social Justice <i>Lay speaker Richard Grzywinski</i></p> <p>Is dedication to Social Justice only based upon our reasoned personal ideologies, guided by philosophical principles or religious dogmas, or does it flow more easily and simply from somewhere else - deep within us? Is altruism a forced behavior?...or a learned one?...or is it intrinsic to humanity? Do the admonitions of Judeo-Christian, Islamic and Hindu teachers to serve the cause of justice only reinforce what our conscience has already told us is true and correct, but which our ego denies? Acting for social justice might be the only path to human self-realization, that is, our <i>salvation</i>. Amen!</p>
<p>March 25</p>	<p>Putting Our Principles To Work <i>Pastor Charlie Dieterich and Former UUCSJS President Paul Utts</i></p> <p>With very special music, we will celebrate our home and perhaps see it with new eyes. Please plan to stay after the service for small group stewardship discussions.</p>

Fellowship Dinner
March 17, 6 pm
Social time and hors d'oeuvres 6 pm
Potluck dinner 6:45
Entertainment begins 8 pm

Peter Mayer Concert
March 24, 7:30 pm
Tickets - only \$15 to congregation members
\$20 at the door for the general public
What a bargain! See Jeff Taylor for tickets.

Free Workshop: Saving the Planet (And Your Money) One Home at a Time: How to Reduce Your Home Energy and Resource Consumption

The State of New Jersey and federal government have generous (if poorly publicized) incentive programs in place aimed at helping homeowners save energy, sometimes lots of it, to reduce related pollution and, as a side benefit, also saving money on utility bills.

The UU Green Sanctuary Committee is repeating the workshop (previously presented February 11) on Wednesday, March 7 at 7 pm to showcase these programs and provide other information about energy savings. Please feel free to bring your family, friends, and neighbors. The government programs are aimed at homeowners, but all who just want to learn are welcome.

Here at the UU Center, we built a cleaner, healthier, more environmentally friendly building, one that is also more economical to light, heat and cool. We want to show you how you can do the same at home, as some members and friends already have.

We'll start by showing you how to access the NJ Clean Energy Program, which offers generous rebates PLUS as much as \$5000 in incentives that can pay up to half of your energy-related improvements, with 0 percent financing for the other half, as you make your home "green" and save money too! The state has set aside almost \$200,000,000 to upgrade insulation, heaters, air-conditioners, and more.

We'll explain why you'll need a certified energy audit of your home, how to get one, and why you should focus first on the "low hanging fruit" the audit identifies, like plugging air leaks and improving insulation to save the most energy at the highest rate of return.

We're also inviting a small number of experts from local green businesses, who can provide information on some of the additional technologies we were able to employ here at the UU Center.

These include rooftop solar-electric systems and geothermal heating/cooling systems. Federal and state incentives, combined with newly emerging creative financing programs can make these technologies cost-free (or better) for many homeowners. But one size doesn't fit all. We'll point you to resources to help find out if it makes sense for you.

We'll also have information about tankless water heaters, energy efficient windows and doors, lighting and more. (Note: This will be an informational workshop. As usual, do your own due diligence if you later decide to get bids for any work on your home.)

Guest At Your Table

The generous social-justice-minded folks at UUCSJS raised \$1,075 in this year's UU Service Committee's "Guest at Your Table" program. Go us!

UUCSJS ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING PLANT SALE

May 11-12, 2012

UUCSJS will be holding a plant triple-header on May 11 and May 12! We'll host our popular **Annual Native Plant Swap and Sale**, our **Native Nursery-Grown Advance Sale** and our very well received **Annual Heirloom Vegetable Sale**.

4th Annual UUCSJS Native Plant Swap & Sale Saturday, May 12

We're holding our 4th annual Native Plant Swap for experienced and new gardeners alike. Our purpose is to create more backyard habitat in southern NJ by giving local gardeners an opportunity to share their extra plants and swap them for free plants. We'll be swapping native perennials, shrubs, and tree seedlings, as well as some non-natives that are especially beneficial to wildlife. **If you are interested in participating in the swap, you'll want to begin dividing and potting up some of your extra native plants in March or early April so they are in good shape for May 12.** Swap details: Pick up a flyer at the Social Justice table. For online flyers about the swap and for info on natives, non-natives, and invasives go to: www.uucsjs.org/social_action.html

3rd Annual Heirloom Vegetable Sale Saturday, May 12

We're also featuring for sale again this year, mouth-watering heirloom vegetables: tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants. YUM! This year we'll be selling 4 different heirloom tomato or pepper varieties in 4 packs. An economical way to purchase heirloom veggie plants for your gourmet garden. Heirloom vegetable sale hours will be the same as for the plant swap: Saturday, May 12 from 9-2 pm.

Native Nursery-Grown Plant Fund Raiser (Advance Order)

Deadline for orders: April 1; pickup on May 11 or May 12

This year, for the second time, we are selling container grown nursery plants. We've selected hard-to-find shrubs and trees and those not likely to be donated as part of our annual plant swap. All native plants are genetically adapted for our area and provide food in the form of nuts, seeds, berries, fruits, leaves, pollen, and nectar that best meet the needs of butterflies and other pollinators, as well as other birds and wildlife. *We're not advertising, instead we're relying on UU members and avid gardeners to spread the word. Please pass on this info to your gardening friends. This sale is a win-win. We'll raise funds for UUCSJS while promoting the use of native plants in our southern New Jersey community.* For an online order form, sale details, & other info on growing natives go to: www.uucsjs.org/social_action.html

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please sign up at the Social Justice table to help with our Native Plant Sale & Swap, Heirloom Veggie Sale, and our Native Nursery-Grown Advance Sale. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Jesse Connor.

Pastor's Page

Charlie's Moment

This month our worship theme is "Justice," a word from the Unitarian Universalist Association's second principle: "Justice, equity and compassion in human relations." In this context we leave aside thoughts of divine justice and retribution, but concentrate on human relations -- things we have a measure of control over. Often the difference between unjust and just is a well placed question. The old movie *Twelve Angry Men* might be a bit melodramatic, but advocates for the poor say that, in a courtroom, the presence of someone from outside the system can have an impact on how a defendant is treated. Simply being there, not saying anything, can change the administration of "justice."

And the idea of "showing up" applies in many situations. Standing on the Side of Love at a rally can change how a politician votes. Speaking out for rights can move others to action -- whether they are animals, children or those needing medical care. Our support for the New Jersey Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry helps that voice be heard in places of power. I do not know how many votes on the Marriage Equality bill were changed to "YEA" due to the UULM-NJ's advocacy, but I do know that we could be an influence on several local legislators who opposed the measure, and we could be part of a UULM-NJ effort to override the Governor's veto.

The actions of Unitarian Universalists in Arizona keep the issue of human rights, equal treatment and compassion in the forefront of the immigration discussion there. This summer our Association will hold a sort of "teach-in" on social justice-making at the General Assembly (GA) to be held in Phoenix, Arizona. It is probably the best chance to learn how to be an effective agent of change in our nation.

And the General Assembly will not be limited to issues of immigration. Every two years the UUA selects one study question for congregations to comment on and to propose ways to make the world more just, equitable and compassionate. This year we are completing a study of "Ethical Eating" and continuing our study of "Immigration as a Moral Issue." There are five additional Congregational Study/Action Issues being proposed for the next four years.

One of these asks "Why [do] Greenhouse Gases and their Effects Matter to Us?" and urges us to understand Climate Action and Adaptation Plans. This study issue challenges us to think locally and act nationally or globally.

Or we can study the existence of Slavery in our own communities, and how to end slavery, which is defined as the forcing of a person to work without pay beyond the level of bare survival and preventing that person from leaving, either through violence or threat of violence.

Another possible study issue asks us to Explore Class Barriers. It asks us to look inward and seek to understand how we respect, or disrespect the worth and dignity of persons in our congregation.

We could concentrate on sustainability of our planet by learning about "Families, Population and the Environment" which considers many intersecting factors. How does lack of Sexuality Education impact population growth? How do family structures differ, and how can all be honored?

And the fifth proposal focuses on Reproductive Justice and how we might expand our social justice calling in this area. This proposal includes consideration of how childhood sexual assault impacts rates of teenage pregnancy later in life.

Each of these Study/Action Issues reflects our principles, but each focuses our time and energy into different tasks. As a congregation we can advocate for one or several of these this summer, or take action on which ever one is chosen. We are, of course, free to find local issues and work for justice alone, or with others in the UULM-NJ.

I encourage us to create a "GA Issues Advisory Team" to present these issues to the congregation and recommend choices to our delegates. Even if an issue is not selected, the process may serve as inspiration for you or others in our community. And that could be a way to create justice, too!

Pastor Charlie

To learn more about this year's General Assembly consider coming to the UU Center on March 1, 7 pm to 8:30 for a webinar/discussion group. (See <http://www.cerguaa.org> for details.)

**Pastor Charlie has regular office hours
from 10 am to 2 pm Wednesdays
at the UU Center.**

Feel free to call the office for a half hour appointment (he has his own mailbox on the answering machine), or send him a note at minister@uucsjs.org.



The Paw Print

Your link to the doings of the South Jersey Animal Advocates

In March, SJAA will be collecting donations for Beacon Animal Rescue. BAR is a local, non-profit organization that rescues domestic animals about to be euthanized in shelters. The group spays and neuters, tests, deworms, and vaccinates all animals before adopting them out. You can help Beacon in its mission by donating *Pedigree* canned dog food, *9-Lives* cat food, copier/printer paper, *Tide* laundry detergent, *Mr. Clean*, *Dawn* dish detergent, postage stamps, bleach and trash bags. As important, if you live in the Ocean View area, the dedicated staff of Beacon would love for you to foster a dog or cat, volunteer to care for the animals (including just giving them love and attention), or help in fundraising. To find out more, visit www.beaconanimalrescue.org.

We did it! Thanks to concerned citizens across the country, the *Humane Society of the United States*, and our very own SJAA members Ronda Cluff and Richard Grzywinshki, the diving horse routine will not be returning to the Steel Pier. Ronda and Richard had great letters to the editor printed in the Press of Atlantic City that you can read at <http://tinyurl.com/diving-horse-letters>. The pen really is mightier than the sword!

See what we can do if we put our heads together? Next up, the Atlantic City rodeo protest. See Richard Grzywinski for details.

We at SJAA want to remind the entire congregation that the issues we face as animal advocates share a link with the majority of other "pet projects" that UUCSJS members are involved in. Green living, children's religious education, ethical eating, and all of our birding aficionados can all benefit from participating in our activities. Even if your time commitment is minimal, SJAA wants you! Please consider helping us have "*respect for the interdependent web of all existence.*"

SJAA is on its way to having a banner year. Speaking of banners, does anyone know how to design one? We plan on using a portion of our budget to create a banner to use when we are out in public at protests and gatherings. See Michelle Tomko if you are up to the challenge.

Many people have sighed for the 'good old days' and regretted the 'passing of the horse,' but today, when only those who like horses own them, it is a far better time for horses. ~C.W. Anderson

There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man. ~Winston Churchill

Horse sense is the thing a horse has which keeps it from betting on people. ~W.C. Fields



"A fiercely affecting work of art."

— Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

Book Group to Reconsider Philip Roth in March with *American Pastoral*

In 1997 Philip Roth won the Pulitzer Prize for *American Pastoral*. He has twice won the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the PEN/Faulkner¹ Award three times. In 2006 Roth received PEN's most prestigious prize, the PEN/Nabokov Award for a "body of work ... of enduring originality and consummate craftsmanship." On **Friday, March 16 at 7 PM in the UU Center Library**, join other book lovers to talk about Philip Roth's *American Pastoral*, "one of Roth's most powerful novels ever," according to *The New York Times*.

Quite a claim to make among such iconic titles as *Portnoy's Complaint*, *Goodbye, Columbus*, *The Human Stain*, and *The Plot Against America*. Roth is the only living American writer to have his work published in a comprehensive, definitive edition by the Library of America; the last of eight volumes is due in 2013. We have Angela Wexler to thank for suggesting *American Pastoral*. "Reconsider the writing of Philip Roth if you're disenchanted; I did, at a friend's suggestion," she says. Angela will lead our discussion. Bring a light snack to share, if you wish.

According to a thumbnail description on Amazon, *American Pastoral*, Roth's 22nd book, constructs a life-long view of the American experience in a thoughtful investigation that contrasts the halcyon post-war years with the divisive and explosive decade of the 60s. "Roth writes like an angel," comments a reviewer on the site. "This book is truly a treat."

One of the knocks on *American Pastoral*, however, even from reviewers who liked it, is that it trivializes the rebellious spirit of the 60s through the excessive "lunacy" of some characters. Social critics ask, where are the examples of logical, righteous protest? Does Roth come off as someone who dislikes the decade altogether? There should be lots to talk about!

In April we will turn to *The Last Lecture* by Randy Pausch, a professor at Carnegie Mellon and UU, written with Jeffrey Zaslow. Pausch had been diagnosed with terminal cancer, yet the lecture he delivered wasn't about dying but instead could be subtitled, "Really achieving your childhood dreams." Marsha Hannah will lead our discussion about this humorous, inspirational, and intelligent book.

Everyone is welcome to come to book group, no sign-up necessary. Plan to attend as often as you can on every third Friday, September through June. Start thinking ahead about books for next year! For more information and to get meeting reminders, contact Judy Pereira. Hope to see you on Friday, March 16.

¹What does PEN stand for, you ask? *Answer:* "PEN Center USA's membership of more than 800 writers includes poets, playwrights, essayists, novelists (**for the original letters in the acronym, 'PEN'**), as well as television and screenwriters, critics, historians, editors, journalists, and translators." (penusa.org)

Putting Your Principles to Work

March marks the start of our annual stewardship campaign. Unlike many denominations, UUCSJS is totally self-supporting and must rely on the generosity of our members and friends to continue to provide Sunday Services, programs and education as well as social justice outreach.

Fortunately, our members are very generous. We have built this beautiful home, our UU Center, and we fund an incredible staff of professionals, including this year's addition, Pastor Charlie Dieterich. In , it was in discussion with Pastor Dieterich that this year's theme of *Putting Your Principles to Work* developed. I was commenting (proudly) about how our congregation's generosity has allowed us to start to pay down the principal on our building loan. He reminded me that as commendable as that is, we may want to put our funds to work on our Principles, and allow the principal on our loan to be paid according to the schedule. Hmm, that is sort of a big part of why many of us attend: to do good works -- "Deed not Creed." Pastor Charlie reminding a member of the congregation why we are here -- excellent!

This year's Stewardship Campaign will be a little different than past years. Instead of a personal visit from your "Stewardship Ambassador" we are going to meet in groups and practice the art of appreciative inquiry. What is it that draws you to this place? What does UUCSJS add to your life? What does your experience with this community bring to you and your family? We will explore these questions in small groups after what I trust will be a very special service on March 25. After exercising our minds in the art of appreciative inquiry, you will be asked to pledge toward our 2012-2013 fiscal year. Before this date, you will receive next year's proposed budget and have a chance to ask questions about it.

We will start looking outward more -- if our Stewardship Campaign is successful and our budget approved by the congregation. After years of establishing a home for free thinking, religious exploration, and education, we will start to take our message to the wider region. The UU Center will continue to provide a wonderful, safe, peaceful place of community; a place where we can learn and share, where we can keep in touch with our better selves in a noisy, hectic world, and where we will work to amplify our message of love and environmental stewardship.

We will Put our Principles to Work.

-- Paul Utts, Stewardship Chair

UUCSJS CO-SPONSORS SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING SERIES

The keynote speaker for our three-part Sustainable Landscaping Series will be Douglas Tallamy, who wrote *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*, which was met with wide acclaim and has greatly influenced the sustainable landscaping movement.

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey is sponsoring Tallamy's presentation which will take place on Monday, March 19 at 7 pm in the College Center Theater on Stockton's campus in Pomona, NJ. UUCSJS, the Atlantic County Master Gardeners: Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Atlantic County, and the Task Force for a Sustainable Galloway (Go Green Galloway) are co-sponsoring.

Tallamy will discuss the important ecological roles of the plants in our landscapes, emphasize the benefits of designing gardens with these roles in mind, and explore the consequences of failing to do so. Because our yards and gardens are part of the terrestrial ecosystems that sustain humans and the life around us, it is essential that we keep them in working order. Gardening in this crowded world carries both moral and ecological responsibilities that we can no longer ignore.

Doug Tallamy is Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology and director of the Center for Managed Ecosystems at the University of Delaware where he has authored 73 research articles and has taught Insect Taxonomy, Behavioral Ecology, and other courses for 30 years. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities.

The presentation will be followed by a question and answer session and book-signing and is free and open to the public. (I would suggest you plan to get there a bit early as I we are expecting a large turnout.)

The second and third workshops in the Sustainable Landscaping Series will take place at our Center. Eric Schrading, Wildlife Biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service will be presenting "Backyard Invaders and Native Alternatives" on Monday, March 26 at 7 pm. I will be presenting the last program in our series Sustainable Landscaping series on "Landscaping for Birds and Other Wildlife" which is scheduled for the following Monday, April 2 at 7 pm.

Please help spread the word about these programs. You can direct folks to our website for more information on the series as well as details on our upcoming plant sale and swap, and sustainable landscaping topics.

-- Jesse Connor

UUCSJS Women's Association Meetings

Margaret Fuller Circle - Thursday, March 1, 1 pm

The Margaret Fuller Circle will meet on Thursday, March 1, at 1 pm in the Church Library. Peg Gillies is providing refreshments, and you know that is treat enough to make you come to the meeting by itself. Kim Trotto, who always presents an unusual, interesting topic for us to discuss, is starting the discussion in honor of Charles Dickens' 200th birthday and the fact that his work turned the attention of many people, both in the U.S. and England, to troubling social issues.

This should prove to be an interesting part of history that can possibly follow through to today's time. Come join us for an informative discussion. We'll be sure to make room for you. --Arlene Yacka, Circle Leader

The Membership Committee is hosting a

Welcoming Brunch

Sunday, March 11, 11:45 in the lounge

This is for our newcomers who may be ready to step deeper into the life of our congregation. We want to get to know you better, and give you a chance to know us better. Lots of information about the UUCSJS and about UUism will be shared, and questions answered. We have these opportunities two or three times a year. While attending this session is a step towards membership, we respect choices to not join until one is truly ready. We are sending invitations to those who we think might be interested. If you would like to come, and do not receive an invitation, please contact Betsy Searight.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA): Time to Sign Up for 2012

Information about the 2012 CSA run by Missie Aprill is available at the Social Justice Table in the vestibule. If you are interested in this "act local" way of obtaining varied and healthful food, applications should be returned with payment by March 18. **Your fee entitles you to fresh-picked organically grown vegetables and other products produced at Thimblefull Farms in Cape May County, delivered directly to the UU Center every Sunday for 15 weeks.** Deliveries will start on May 27, and there are some exciting changes this year that will allow more choices and flexibility. The **number of shares available is limited and will be on a first come, first served basis.** Find out more by visiting the Social Justice table for a brochure, or talk with Missie Aprill during coffee hour any Sunday.

Children's Religious Education

Singing Out with Children's RE

In addition to our regularly scheduled religious education classes, this month our children will be making some noise – of the musical kind. Each Sunday, our children collect the food pantry gifts and are then "sung-out" to their religious education classes, but this month, the kids will be the ones doing the singing. Our students have begun preparing a little ditty for the entertainment portion of the Fellowship Dinner, and we are looking forward to sharing our song with the congregation on March 17.

And that's not all! Steve Fiedler (one of the organizers of our monthly Green Light Coffee House) has offered to organize a "jam session" for our middle schoolers, in the hopes of giving the kids a space to make a joyful noise – and possibly encourage them to perform at one of the monthly coffee houses. We are in the process of scheduling our first "jam session" and will alert the student's families when a date has been chosen.

With all this music in RE *"How Can I Keep From Singing?"*

Peace Pilgrimage to Assisi Film and Discussion

Friday, March 16, 7 pm, Green Classroom

In October, 40 interfaith pilgrims, led by Peace Troubadour James Twyman, walked over 116 miles through the Italian countryside from LaVerna to Assisi. The pilgrims attended the 25th anniversary of the World Peace Gathering, where spiritual leaders from around the world united in interreligious harmony.

Join one of the pilgrims, UUCSJS friend Dina DeSalvo, for a screening of the inspiring documentary film that takes you on the pilgrims' journey as they endure hardships and injury, face their fears, and revel in the joy of celebrating peace.

Do you grow your own food?

Well if you don't, you have to visit the grocery store.



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!

Board of Trustees HIGHLIGHTS February 2012

The **regular monthly meeting** of the **Board of Trustees** was held on Tuesday, February 21, 2012, at 6:30 pm in the UU Center Lounge, President Jim Gentile presiding, and opened with the sharing of joys and concerns.

• **Finance Committee Report** – Committee Chair and Board member John Searight distributed his "UUCSJS Fund Balances 2-21-12," noting that everything is looking pretty much the same with the big exception that today's statement records the scheduled payment of \$5,000 on 3/1/12. *With that check we are successfully retiring \$100,000 in congregational in-house loans*, generously given to enable completion of our UU building, he explained.

Searight reported the Stewardship committee is slowly but surely putting together materials for the annual budget campaign. The Fellowship Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 17, followed by the Stewardship Sunday service on March 25, during which singer-songwriter Peter Mayer will perform.

In conclusion, the chairman said that he and campaign chair Paul Utts are "nervous, but confident" UUCSJS can meet this year's pledge goal of \$158,000 – a 16% increase.

• **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Prim Reeves began by saying that "we're looking pretty good; close to the edge, but on track." She presented the detailed "Financial Report for January 2012," and cautioned there are still a few challenges ahead in the last months of the fiscal year.

Program Council Chair and Board member Debbi Dagavarian was asked by the treasurer to carry a reminder to all committee chairs to weigh check requests carefully against existing budget balances before submitting them for payment.

Treasurer Reeves called the Board's attention to: 1) the unplanned expense of \$700 for attendees' registration for the "Building Healthy Congregations" workshops, and 2) the new rug in the Library generously donated by the women of the Margaret's Circle. (Be sure to take a look!)

MOTION: It was moved by Primrose Reeves that the Board of Trustees reallocate the amount of \$400 from "Minister Expenses - Taxes" (Line 94) to "Volunteer Development" (Line 82), to help cover unanticipated expenses for "Building Healthy Congregations" workshops. The motion passed unanimously.

In addition to her regular financial report, Treasurer Reeves distributed the "UUCSJS Proposed Budget for FY 12-13" for Board approval. The total budget of \$201,000 represents an 18% increase over last fiscal year. (From 2010-11 to 2011-12, the increase was 17%.)

MOTION: It was moved by Debbi Dagavarian that the Board of Trustees approve the "UUCSJS PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 12-13" (DRAFT VERSION 5; Approved by Finance Committee). The motion passed unanimously.

The proposed budget will be used as the basis for the 2012 annual budget drive, and in somewhat streamlined form, submitted to the congregation for approval at the annual meeting in June; the more detailed version of the budget will always be available upon request.

• **Minister's Report**

Pastor Dieterich said this week he sent 35 postcards to recent Sunday visitors inviting them to "Meet the Minister" informally after service on February 26. On February 19 he took part in the Membership committee's luncheon meeting and workshop on "Repelling Fewer Visitors." A "webinar" to promote this year's UUA General Assembly (G.A.) will be held on March 7, and the next Newcomers' Brunch is scheduled for March 11.

On March 18 he plans to be on hand for the new member book signing, serving as lay leader on this, his "off Sunday." March is so busy that a UULMNJ "invitation to meet" has been postponed until April.

Pastor Dieterich repeated he would like us to create a comprehensive year-long calendar for 2012-13. Program Council has requested necessary dates from all committee chairs by the next meeting on Thursday, March 15 at 5:30 pm, chair Dagavarian said.

Pastor Charlie was joined on February 19 in Cape May by five others to hear a talk and view photos on segregated schools in New Jersey. Another excursion is being planned for April.

• **Miscellaneous Matters**

– **Purchase of new office chairs**

After talking with John Searight, Finance Committee chair, Operations Manager Heidi Jansch located two badly needed office chairs for \$60 each, half price.

– **Second Plate Collection**

It was decided this idea should be put before the Program Council, with special attention to how to choose a monthly charity and how to conduct the awarding.

– **Ordination Committee**

On behalf of the Board, Prim Reeves will put out a general call for those interested in helping to plan Pastor Charlie's big day.

– **General Assembly (G.A.) in Phoenix**

The Nominations Committee selects this year's delegates (are you interested?), and Pastor Dieterich will introduce the Congregation to 2012's issues.

– **Leadership Development "webinar"**

This item was postponed until the March meeting.

– **Thanks to our volunteer craftsmen**

The Board will convey official and heartfelt thanks to TJ Jansch, Jack Miller, and Jesse Connor for their expertise and hours of work upgrading our kitchen, and to Al Polk for enhancing the site of the planned Memorial Garden.

– **UUCSJS receives the thanks of others**

Letters were received thanking UUCSJS for aiding the UU Congregation of Tuscaloosa after tornadoes in April, 2011, and for contributing \$1,075 to the UUSC "Guest at Your Table" initiative.

• **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm, and reconvened immediately in Executive Session for a further hour.

– Judy Pereira, Secretary

The **NEXT REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Trustees will be held on **Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 6:30 pm** at the UU Center, 75 S. Pomona Rd.

UUCSJS Board of Trustees 2011-2012

Jim Gentile (12), President
Debbi Dagavarian (12), Vice President
Judy Pereira (13), Secretary
Primrose Reeves (12), Treasurer
John Searight (13), Member at Large
Joe Terrazzini (12), Member at Large
Art Wexler (13), Member at Large

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

Minister
Pastor Charlie Dieterich

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

Director of Religious Education
Heidi Jansch
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Operations Manager
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Board of Trustees 2011-12
Debbi Dagavarian, Jim Gentile, Judy Pereira, Primrose Reeves,
John Searight, Joe Terrazzini, Art Wexler



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Visit us on the Web: www.uucsjs.org

March 2012

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