



Newsletter



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the
South Jersey Shore

Volume 14, Issue 08

August 2012

August Services “Letting Go”

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>August 5</p>	<p>Lies My Cortex Told Me <i>Lay speaker Michael Cluff</i> Our senses fail us, our brains store memories imperfectly, and we are blissfully unaware of our own biases. So how should we find truth and meaning with the brain we have, not the brain we wish to have? (WARNING: be on the lookout for invisible gorillas and dragons. As a bonus, we may meet a Straw Vulcan just in time for Lauren's talk.)</p>
<p>August 12</p>	<p>To Boldly Go <i>Lay speaker Lauren Porr</i> When you're a UU, you see your principles everywhere. When you're a space cadet, you look to the stars. Logically, our lay speaker this week sees UU principles in the stars. Join Lauren Porr and the Enterprise crew (Ronda Cluff, Steve Hall, Wayne Andress, and Jeff Taylor) as they explore the universe with eyes to the telescopes and one hand on the warp drive!</p>
<p>August 19</p>	<p>Guest Talk <i>Guest speaker Donna Renfro</i> Donna Renfro, ministerial intern at The Unitarian Universalist Church of Cherry Hill will lead our service.</p>
<p>August 26</p>	<p>Justice General Assembly 2012 <i>GA Delegates Richard Grzywinski, Charlie Robert, and Pastor Charlie Dieterich</i> Our three delegates to June's Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona will present a capsule version in song, poetry and lecture. Join us as Richard Grzywinski, Charlie Roberts and Pastor Charlie Dieterich bring the experience home to South Jersey.</p>

September Will Be Busy!

September 9

Water Ceremony and Congregation picnic
(collect your water!)

September 14-16

Peace Pilgrim Celebration

September 23

Blue Jean Sunday

September 30, 4 pm

Ordination of Rev. Charles Dieterich

**Core of Fire Dance workshops
at First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia
Healing Power of Qi: Mind Body Medicine
Sundays, August 12, August 19, September 2
Noon to 1 pm**

Become alive to the gift of movement with The Healing Power of Qi Mind Body Medicine Dance Workshop series with Dr. Carol Penn. Participants will participate in creative expression as movement, learn to use the breath to enhance relaxed and open awareness, all while learning the QiGong based choreography to "Let it Be", a moving meditation for peace. Appropriate for all ages, no prior movement experience necessary. Please wear loose, comfortable clothing. Attend as many workshops as you like for one registration. You're encouraged to come to more than one session in order to deepen your practice and have more fun! **Please contact Barbara Miller for more information. uucsjsmusic@comcast.net**

**What are you doing this Labor Day?
How about celebrating in the traditional way
with a beach barbeque...
And with your UU friends,
on Ventnor Beach!**

You can do this by signing up for the Service Auction item provided by Mariann and Victor Maene. There are 6 spaces left in their party planned for 20. Cost is \$25 per person, and it is of course on Monday, September 3, rain or shine, at 5 pm.

To get your space reserved, visit the signup table in the back of the sanctuary, or contact events chair, Betsy Searight.

Happenings at Murray Grove:

Camping in the Grove! - August 12-16, 2012:
5 days of fun-filled summer adventure for children in 3rd through 6th grade. If you love games, art, swimming, music, nature and bonfires, our camping experience, where Universalism traditionally began, is just for you!
Visit murraygrove.org for details.

**Summer is here!
Try some new items on your grill:
fish instead of burgers; veggies like corn,
zucchini, peppers, portabella mushrooms.
Get creative!**

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!**

IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

Three elements mark formal preparation for and entrance into the Unitarian Universalist ministry. First, there must be academic and practical training as provided by a theological school. This requires a graduate degree (Master of Divinity) or its equivalent.

Second, in order to obtain denominational standing, all candidates for the UU ministry must appear before and be certified by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the UUA.

Third, a person must be called to some ministry. Ordination to the ministry in a church is solely an act performed by a local congregation. After which, the person has the right to be called Reverend. While each church has the right to ordain anyone it chooses, the UUA and the UU Ministers' Association discourage the ordination of those who have not completed the prior two stages. Pastor Charlie has now completed those first two stages.

On September 30 at 4 pm, less than two months away, our congregation will create and present a ceremony the size of which many of us have never had the opportunity to observe. At this time we are expecting as many as 150 guests -- including UUCSJS members and friends, District UU ministers and representatives, local clergy, and a list from Charlie that includes people who have helped him along his ministerial journey, other friends, and family.

It will "take a village" to make this happen. A steering committee, consisting of Judy Pereira, Richard Grzywinski, Bud Smith, Jeff Taylor, Kathleen Hartnett, Paul Utts, Stephanie Garrett, Margaret Rea, Prim Reeves, and Pastor Charlie, has been meeting since early April. Many subcommittees have been formed including Publicity & Documentation, Notices and Invitations, Building Preparedness, Lodging of Guests, Rehearsal Dinner, Sunday Program & Celebration, Decorations, Rentals, Parking, Ushers & Greeters, Audio, and, of course, Cleanup.

As you can see, we need *a lot* of help. Starting with this Sunday, there will be sign-up lists at the back of the sanctuary where all members and friends can volunteer for areas where they can help. Please be sure to check it out or talk to any member of the Steering Committee. Together we can make this a ceremony to remember for "soon to be" Rev. Charlie.

-- Prim Reeves, Ordination Committee Chair

**Leading into the Next 50 Years -
JPD Fall Leadership Conference**

September 22, 2012 - 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Main Line Unitarian Church,
816 S. Valley Forge Road, Devon, PA

Cost: \$35 per person (includes snacks, lunch and materials)
Registration deadline is Sunday, September 16.

Pastor's Page

And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up?

And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

(1 Samuel 28:15, KJV)

The scene for the passage above is King Saul and the Witch of Endor calling up the spirit of the Prophet Samuel, who had died recently. Saul is upset because God has ceased inspiring him in battle, and is asking Samuel for help.

The goal of this article isn't going to be biblical exegesis... there is plenty of that available elsewhere. Instead, I've been thinking about a book I read a few years ago, *The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind* by Julian Jaynes. When I first saw it on the shelf at Community Church in New Orleans, I feared even opening up the cover, thinking that some sort of rays like in *Raiders Of The Lost Ark* would appear and turn me to dust.

But that didn't happen. Instead I spent several days going through Jaynes' thesis that human beings didn't understand consciousness until about 1000 BCE, which is perhaps about the time that Saul lived.

Before that, life was lived according to rules heard by elders, repeated in rituals and passed to children as gospel truth. Now and then an audio hallucination would give new insight -- some "right brain thinking" if you will -- in the form of a dream or a waking hallucination. The early books of the Bible, the *Iliad*, and many myths contain knowledge coming in the form of a dream or divination.

I had long thought of revelation by hallucination as junk, deception, and literary convenience. But maybe not. Inspiration, known to some of the most brilliant minds of our times, is described as being not too different from Samuel telling Saul what to do. The discovery of the double helix structure of DNA was said to be in the form of a revelation. Likewise, Einstein and Bertrand Russell came up with important theories not by deductive logic, but by inspired thought.

The idea that once upon a time people used ancient words to guide their every action, trusting them completely and not thinking critically may seem absurd these days. Jaynes brings up the possibility that three millenia ago, that was the norm.

This past month I spent a week trying out methods described in *The Artist's Way* by Julia Cameron. Again, when I first looked at this book I thought it was too odd to be useful. She advocates writing "Morning Pages", stream of consciousness (or unconsciousness) words in a journal. This isn't a journal like the *Wall Street Journal*; this is raw random thoughts, a sort of mental floss first thing in the morning. The goal is to connect with the "Right Brain" and unleash creative ideas. (Scientists now say both halves of the brain contribute to logical (left brain) and creative (right brain) thought. The "Left-Right" notation is simply shorthand.) I tried it, and it seems to have worked. I may make it a ritual!

This month's services will be logical and creative! I hope that our service on the 26th will even be prophetic, with or without the Witch of Endor.

Happy August!

What's in a Name?

Delegates at the 2012 General Assembly in Phoenix, held June 20–24, approved a change to the UUA bylaws that was requested by the UUA Board of Trustees. The change relates to how congregations are referred to, and it opens the way for the creation of congregations that are not tied to a particular location.

Delegates approved changing all bylaw references to "churches and fellowships." That phrase will be replaced throughout the bylaws with "congregations." In addition, the word "local" will be dropped in bylaws in reference to congregations.

The Rev. Dr. Susan Ritchie, the UUA trustee who introduced the amendment at GA, said that removing "local" will support the creation of congregations that are not based in a particular building or location, such as the Church of the Larger Fellowship, which meets online and at GA. "We can gather as intentional religious community with people we do not share a particular geography with," Ritchie said. "The board believes it serves the cause of justice to expand the definition of congregations."

The term "congregation" is also more welcoming to many Jewish UUs than "church." Congregations may, of course, continue to use whatever name they choose. The bylaws change simply changes how the UUA refers to congregations and provides space for the creation of other types of congregations. Youth and young adults have been especially supportive of the creation of non-traditional congregations.

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

The South Jersey Animal Advocates would like to encourage members of our congregation to seek out humane modes of summer entertainment. The internet is full of reports of circus animals and Seaworld whales attacking trainers. Aside from the obvious cruelty to animals, also consider the senseless danger humans are put in, all in the name of entertainment.

The Coles Brothers Circus is coming to the racetrack in Mays Landing on August 8, 9, and 10. If you know anyone interested in this circus, please pass the word that this type of "family entertainment" involves animal cruelty at its worst. In fact, Cole Brothers is notorious for their documented mistreatment of their animals. www.bornfreeusa.org/facts.php?p=429&more=1

If you want to enjoy your family around animals, take them bird watching. Or you can volunteer at your local shelter. If you insist on a zoo, consider The Associated Humane Society's Popcorn Park Zoo near Murray Grove in Forked River.

The Associated Humane Societies, founded in 1906, is the largest animal sheltering system in New Jersey. They comprise three shelters located in Newark, Forked River, and Tinton Falls. Established in 1977, Popcorn Park Zoo is a sanctuary for abandoned, injured, ill, exploited, abused or elderly wildlife, exotic and farm animals, and birds.

The Society is a not for profit, 501(c)3 organization, and Popcorn Park is also a federally licensed zoo. The Society prides itself on their devotion to the thousands of animals that they care for annually and the chance for a better life they offer them. Please learn more about the Society and Popcorn Park Zoo on their website www.ahscares.org.

Summertime can bring changes to routines that could reduce the volume of our weekly collections, so SJAA is combining our July and August collections for the benefit of one worthy charity: Cape-Atlantic C.A.T.S. (Citizens Altering the Strays), an all-volunteer rescue organization that provides veterinary care, humane education, and adoption services. In July, we gathered an impressive array of items including cat toys, food bowls, paper towels, and of course, cat food. Thanks to all for your generous contributions. Together, we are making a difference!

C.A.T.S. needs canned cat food (dry cat food and litter are NOT needed), towels and light blankets, paper towels, bleach, laundry detergent, dishwashing detergent, Windex, cotton balls, Q-tips, Odo-Ban, and scratching posts. Visit Mew To You, a cat rescue and thrift shop open daily in Ocean City, or visit www.capeatlanticcats.petfinder.com to see kitties ready and waiting for a forever home.

"If possessing a higher degree of intelligence does not entitle one human to use another for his or her own ends, how can it entitle humans to exploit nonhumans for the same purpose?"

-- Peter Singer, Animal Liberation

"If slaughterhouses had glass walls, we would all be vegetarian."

-- Paul McCartney

"A book is like a magic garden carried in your pocket." — Old Chinese proverb (probably)¹

Vast Variety in First Four Promises Fantastic Fall for UU Book Lovers

Our UU Book Lovers group returns in **September**, and first up is *The Death of Josseline* by Margaret Regan, recommended reading for this year's UUA General Assembly in Phoenix. Subtitled "Immigration Stories from the Arizona Borderlands," Regan has reported for the last decade on the escalating chaos along the Arizona-Mexico border, ground zero for immigration since 2000. Using Arizona as a microcosm, she explores a host of urgent issues. "This should be required reading for everyone — from President Obama ... to migrant rights activists ... It gave me inspiration," wrote Sandra Cisneros, author of *The House on Mango Street* among other works. *Essential!*

Join us on **Friday evening, September 21 at 7 pm in the Library at the UU Center** for this first fabulous (talk)-fest of the 2012-13 season. No advance notice is needed. (Bring a light snack to share if you wish.)

October brings us *Persuasion* by Jane Austen. We read, "*Persuasion* is a great literary work ... Jane Austen's finest book. [Will you agree?] This was her final completed novel before her death, and was published posthumously. [It] deals with the social issues of the times and paints a fascinating portrait of Regency England, especially when dealing with the class system. [It's] also a very poignant and passionate story of love, disappointment, loss and redemption. ... [O]ne should not ever be persuaded to abandon core values and beliefs, especially for ignoble goals. There are consequences, always."² *Captivating!*

Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer in **November** proves the fact of "vast variety." Subtitled "A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster" of May 1996, Krakauer's "highly readable prose makes the book read like fiction ... He signed on for the Everest climb [we learn], intending to write a standard mountaineering magazine article. That he chose the fateful May 1996 climb is simply a rare case of someone being at the wrong place at precisely the right time. Though it caused him plenty of personal torment, it also allowed him to write a story for the ages."³ *Unforgettable!*

Finally, in **December** we will enjoy one of Penny Harter's favorites, British author Rosamunde Pilcher and *Winter Solstice*. Despite its chilly setting the novel promises to pleasantly warm hearts. *Winter Solstice* has all the familiar trademarks of a Pilcher saga [I'm told] ... One character after another learns to live with their losses as they find themselves spirited northwards from Sussex to Scotland, by way of Cornwall. "As events unfurl, slowly, surely, but inevitably, those in need find solace in unexpected places. While her characterizations are generally carefully crafted and entirely rounded, Pilcher's greatest strengths lie in her natural, easy narratives of everyday life and her thoroughly researched and captivating descriptions of scenery and surroundings."⁴ *Wow!*

Book Lovers Group reminders and occasional literary notices can be sent to you via email, just contact Judy Pereira. All are most welcome to join us for evenings that promise pleasant periods of thought and laughter, *books included!*

¹The quotation is heard, for example, in Masterpiece production of Sherlock Holmes, *The Blind Banker*, PBS (Fall 2010)

²Jana Perskie ³Brian Rubendall ⁴Carey Green, amazon.com

Deliberate Practice

In his book *Outliers: The Story of Success*, Malcolm Gladwell examines what makes high-achievers rise above the crowd. The answer is **deliberate practice**, specifically 10,000 hours of deliberate practice. That would be four hours a day for almost seven years. That is a lot of daily practice.

I have been asked why I would voluntarily take on the role of President of the congregation. The question is often accompanied with a hint that you might need to be a little crazy to do it. My answer is, that although I am a lifelong Unitarian (Universalist), I know I need more “deliberate practice” in living a more faithful UU life, and my deep involvement in various aspects of the congregational life provide me with opportunities for practice.

I did think I was prepared to be President of this congregation. After all, I had served on the Board for many years, serving with every President we have had. However, my first few days as President were unexpectedly chaotic. The circumstances were certainly unusual. A rare *derecho* storm swept through the area and knocked out the electrical power at the UU Center. Thus my first act as President was to cancel services. I am happy to say that after that rough start, things have calmed down considerably.

Although we have another month left in summer, there is a lot happening at the UU Center. September’s calendar is especially full of activities and special events. This includes the **Ordination of Rev. Charles Dieterich on Sunday September 30**. Our congregation has voted, and the Ordination Committee is planning a special celebration. We will be host to many UUs from around the region and around the country. However, the Ordination is more than a big party. It culminates Pastor Charlie’s years of study, internship, and meeting numerous requirements to become a UU Minister. While the Unitarian Universalist Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC) recommends candidates for ordination, it is not the School of Ministry, nor the Unitarian Universalist Association, nor the MFC, that ordain ministerial candidates. **Only Congregations ordain a UU minister.** This is a long-standing tradition in Unitarian Universalism that dates back to the historic “Cambridge Platform of 1648.”

This is a rare and special event in our congregational UU journey. It is historic for us because it is our first ordination. I think it is fitting that it will be on September 30, the four year anniversary of the certificate of occupancy for our UU Center. It will mark one year that Pastor Charlie has been with us. I see this as part of the congregation’s “deliberate practice” of what it means to be a UU Congregation. There is much to do as we prepare to give our blessings to Reverend Dieterich. I hope you will not miss the opportunity to get involved (see “IT TAKES A VILLAGE” on page 2!). From what I have been reading, it is likely to be a transformational event for both the Congregation as well as the Minister.

From the UUA website “Ordination is not merely a tertiary level of accreditation after graduation and Fellowship, but a mutual commitment to service and support, a calling out of the congregation to service of that community and the world beyond. It is a recognition and affirmation of the skills, talents, and calling of a person to the professional ministry. As one of the highest honors a congregation can grant to an individual, ordination must be reclaimed as a central event in the life of a congregation.”

Board of Trustees HIGHLIGHTS July 2012

The **regular monthly meeting** of the **Board of Trustees** was held on Tuesday, July 17, 2012, at 6:30 pm in the UU Center Lounge, President Karen York presiding. After joys and concerns, opening words affirming shared principles were read aloud to accompany lighting of the chalice.

UUCSJS Bookkeeper and Congregation member Kathleen Hartnett was present, along with all members of the Board, for this first meeting of the new fiscal year.

• **Announcements.** President York announced that: **1)** A Board subcommittee to negotiate a new letter of agreement with Pastor Charlie will meet July 26 & 27; **2)** Music Director Barbara Miller purchased a Church Performance License to cover UUCSJS when playing or performing copyrighted music outside religious services; **3)** A Board-approved special collection for Murray Grove Retreat & Renewal Center is not yet scheduled; and **4)** Board Talk-Backs will continue once each month at 11:30 am, usually on the fourth Sunday.

• **Treasurer's Report.** John Searight began by offering personal thanks to outgoing Treasurer Prim Reeves. During her five years of service from 2007 to 2012, she managed to raise substantially the level of our financial reporting, budgeting, and accounting, he said. "I want to acknowledge the hard work and rigorous attention to our financial health that Prim has displayed." The Board passed a formal motion in recognition of Prim's "outstanding stewardship" of UUCSJS finances and the "exemplary manner" in which she discharged her fiduciary responsibilities. Searight next presented the three-page "Financial Report for June 2012," including year-to-date figures for FY 12. The year ended with Total Income \$7,304 short of our budget goal but with Total Expenses \$3,178 under budget; therefore, net, we have a fairly modest "miss" of \$4,126 in income overall.

Pledge income for FY 12 was \$10,913 under the budgeted \$136,500; however, this 7.8% shortfall is well within the 10% experts say we should expect, the treasurer said. On the plus side, we netted \$10,369 from the Auction; \$3,650 from Grocery Card sales; \$2,260 from Social Justice table sales; \$1,598 from the Native Plants sale; and \$1,436 from FUUN activities.

On a somber note, Searight recalled the critical cash flow problem facing us at the end of June. A "special request" went out to generous donors asking for expedited payment of FY 13 pledges, and the response was extraordinary. But he cautioned we need to monitor closely the rate of incoming pledges this year, and convey to our members the importance of regular pledge payments.

"Fortunately, for the short term at least, we have been able to build our reserve and have a healthy balance in our operating account."

• **Discussion/Action Items.** **ACTION:** The Board will now regularly meet on the third Monday of each month at 6:45 pm in the UU Center Lounge.

ACTION: The Board set Monday, August 27 at 5:30 pm for transitioning, visioning and goal-setting for the year with outgoing and new Board members, Pastor Dieterich, UUCSJS staff, and the Committee on Ministry (reserve date, Wed., Aug. 29).

Long-range planning is not the purpose of the August session, but the fact is, UUCSJS's five-year plan comes to an end in 2013. President York said she wishes to see a congregation-wide process begin soon to create a renewed long-range vision.

ACTION: After discussion the Board determined Program Council is the best place to generate new guidelines for special

collections. Debbi Dagavarian, Board vice president and PC chair, agreed to draft criteria, discuss them with the group, and report back to the Board.

ACTION: The Board approved use of the Sanctuary by David Shaman for 30 minutes at a reduced rate for a private, non-member Civil Union ceremony for 12 outside participants.

• **Review of Procedures for Emergency Closing.** President York described the recent storm closing Sunday, July 1, calling for discussion and review. **ACTION:** The president then proposed the following steps, which were agreed to by the Board.

PROCEDURE FOR EMERGENCY CLOSING

1) The decision to close shall be made by the Board president in consultation with the minister, other members of the Board, and Sunday Service speakers;

2) A cancellation message shall be recorded on the UU Center phone by the office administrator or the Board president and the information posted on Yahoo! Groups and Facebook. Also at this time, the alarm company must be contacted;

3) An attempt will be made by members of the Board to contact by phone as many UUCSJS members as possible (the former "phone tree" has been discontinued);

4) An arrangement will be made for someone to be present during the regular service time to gather with any who did not receive the message; and

5) Emergency Contacts (all residents of Galloway) shall be Steve Fiedler, Chris Holaday, and if he is able to agree, Richard Grzywinski.

• **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm, and reconvened immediately in Executive Session until 9:03.

— Judy Pereira, *Secretary*

The **NEXT REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Trustees will be held on **Monday, August 20, 2012 at 6:45 p.m.** at the UU Center, 75 S. Pomona Rd.

UUCSJS Board of Trustees 2012-2013

Karen York (14), President

Debbi Dagavarian (14), Vice President

John Searight (14), Treasurer

Judy Pereira (13), Secretary

Lauren Porr (13), Member at Large

Joe Terrazzini (14), Member at Large

Art Wexler (13), Member at Large

year given is end of term, e.g. (13) means thru 6/30/2013

Staff as of July 1, 2012

Office Administrator, Michelle Tomko

Director of Religious Education (DRE), Heidi Jansch

Music Director, Worship Coordinator, Barbara Miller

Bookkeeper, Kathleen Hartnett

"When one door closes another door opens; but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us." -- Alexander Graham Bell

Children's Religious Education

Our children are enjoying the summer activities led by our guest leaders - so far they have made seashell wind chimes, tie-dyed T-shirts, worked with clay and learned juggling. *And* there is more fun in store this month – many of these activities will be hands-on and may get messy, so if you have children who will be participating, *please dress them in play clothes that can get dirty.*

August 5 - Rock Painting - Colby Tippins

August 12 - Paper crafts - Tracy Longshore

August 19 - Jewelry making - Debbi Dagavarian

August 26 - Co-operative games - Karen Zindell

September 2 - Balloon Animals - Michelle Tomko

September 9 will be our annual **water service** and **family picnic**, and our regular Religious Education classes will begin on September 16.

See you in September!

-- Heidi Jansch, Director of Religious Education

UUCSJS Women's Association Meetings

The Margaret Circle will meet on Thursday, August 2, in the Library for a brown bag luncheon. This will be our final informal get-together before we begin regular sessions September 6, when we welcome our new Circle Leader, Judy Brown.

I want to thank all those remarkable people who helped celebrate my 85th birthday, with special thanks to Kathryn Kelley who made all the arrangements. You only prove what a great group of ladies we have!

Arlene Yacka
Circle Leader

Relief Fund to Help those affected by the Colorado Wildfires

The UUA and the Mountain Desert UU District are standing in solidarity with those who have experienced the devastation of several wildfires that raged through Colorado and Montana destroying homes and property. In response *The Mountain Desert District Emergency Relief Fund* has been established to offer offer timely financial assistance to our UU community as they begin to recover and rebuild following the fires. To make a donation go to: mdduua.org

ADOPT-A-UU-GARDEN-BED

Who can adopt?

- Individuals
- Families
- Groups/teams of like-minded individuals

Why adopt?

- You'll have the satisfaction gained from sharing the responsibility for the stewardship of our grounds.
- Shared work affords the opportunity to strengthen friendships and family ties.
- You can involve children in appreciating and learning about how to care for our environment.
- Scheduling is up to you -- individuals or groups have the flexibility to arrange volunteer time to suit their needs.
- While we are not creating memorial gardens, adopting a garden might afford some the possibility of privately honoring or remembering a loved one through your thoughts and efforts.
- We are committed to environmental sustainability at UUCSJS and therefore plant only native perennials, shrubs, and trees. By helping us maintain our grounds, you will make it possible for us to showcase native plants and educate the public about their value.

How often would I/we have to come?

- A light weeding once a month, beginning in April and ending in September or October should be sufficient to keep the bed looking good.

How long will I/we be committed for?

- We will give people the opportunity to renew their sponsorship on a yearly basis. As long as the garden has been well maintained, sponsors will be able to continue caretaking their chosen garden.

How can I/we get started and know what to do?

- Jack Miller and Jesse Connor will help you get started and will be available to assist you or answer any questions you might have. Tools for maintaining the garden areas will be available in our shed.

“Breathe. **Let go.** And remind yourself that this very moment is the only one you know you have for sure.” – *Oprah Winfrey*

“Getting over a painful experience is much like crossing monkey bars. You have to let go at some point in order to move forward.”
– *attributed to C.S. Lewis*

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

Staff

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Board of Trustees 2011-12

Debbi Dagavarian, Judy Pereira, Lauren Porr,
John Searight, Joe Terrazzini, Art Wexler, Karen York

Newsletter – Mariann Maene – newsletter@uucsjs.org

Visit us on the Web: www.uucsjs.org

August 2012

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