



# NEWSLETTER

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the  
South Jersey Shore



Volume 15, Issue 03

March 2013

## March Services

### “Brokenness/Wholeness”

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.

**Note: in case of inclement weather, you can call the church phone at 609-965-9400  
for a recording as to whether events or services are delayed or cancelled.**

<b>March 3</b>	<p><b>How Have I Sinned? Universalism</b> <i>Reverend Charlie Dieterich</i></p> <p>What made Universalism different, and caused the movement to leave Christianity behind, is the concept of “Original Blessing,” evolving into “Inherent Worth and Dignity.” We welcome new members and affirm one thread of our denomination’s heritage and how that changes everything.</p>
<b>March 10</b>	<p><b>What Floor, Please?--The Elevator Speech Game</b> <i>Lay speaker Bob Baum</i></p> <p>Come on down to door number one, two, or three, or face double jeopardy in the showcase showdown. We will be certain to mix all the game-show metaphors as a cast of tens spins the wheel to deliver their versions of what UU means to them. These individual spins on UUism were developed at our January workshop -- copies will be available.</p>
<b>March 17</b>	<p><b>The Serenity Prayer (For Those Who Pray and Those Who Don’t)</b> <i>Lay Speaker Helene Gentile and Michael Cluff</i></p> <p>“God grant me the serenity...” begins one of the most enduring of prayers. Michael Cluff and Helene Gentile will present a history of the prayer and how it may assist along one’s spiritual journey, whatever that may be.</p>
<b>March 24</b>	<p><b>Amazing Gratitude</b> <i>Reverend Charlie Dieterich and Paul Utts</i></p> <p>We are here! We are thankful to those who have nurtured this congregation -- deeply believing in the need for our voice at the South Jersey Shore. How do we show gratitude? With dancing and tambourine, and by looking to the future and renewing our commitments. Come celebrate our community and plan to stay afterwards to share in small groups your gratitude and vision of how we can best move forward.</p>
<b>March 31</b>	<p><b>Art of the Covenant</b> <i>Lay leaders Debbi Dagavarian, Dina DeSalvo, Heidi Jannsch, Jack Miller, Judy Pereira</i></p> <p>In January, the Reverend Libby Smith led one-third of our congregation in a workshop discussing what we wanted to include in a covenant of right relations. Those assembled charged five of our members to take the draft covenant pieces agreed upon in the workshop and shape them into a cohesive whole. This service will present the covenant and examine its role in our UUSCJS community.</p>

**Fellowship Dinner**  
**Saturday, March 16, 2012**  
*Come one, come all!*

## Fellowship Dinner Planning!

The Fellowship Dinner is on Saturday, March 16! Please help out our resident caterers Team Terrazzini this year by RSVPing to **Wendy Terrazzini** as soon as possible with **how many** in your family will be attending and **what dish** you will be contributing. Please register no later than one week before the event. Email Wendy with your info -- she's in the Member Directory.

And...

While we enjoy dessert, there will be family-friendly entertainment by members of our congregation. If you would like to **share your talent** with us in a 3-4 minute act (skit, song, dance, humor), please contact **Barbara Miller** at [uucsjsmusic@comcast.net](mailto:uucsjsmusic@comcast.net). There will be space for a total of about 20 minutes of entertainment, so act quickly!

## Next 350.org Art Show and Concert Tuesday, March 12, 6 - 7:30 pm

Come out to the next Art Show and Concert (as recently featured in the Press of Atlantic City!!). Pop by for some original music by local musicians and local art by original artists. This is an informal event with art to look at and purchase, music to groove to, and nibbles and refreshments. It starts at 6 pm in the UU Center Sanctuary. There will be a 350.ORG meeting afterwards if you want to find out more about this organization dedicated to carbon-reduction and climate change education. For more info contact Victor Maene or Ron Hutchison.

## Did you miss Charlie's Ordination on September 30? Or want to relive it?

On Sundays there will be DVDs of the service available for \$10 in the lobby. Look for either Jeff Taylor or Prim Reeves.

## Happenings At Murray Grove

**The Dreaming Mind and Our Collective Journey Toward Wholeness:** Intensive Dream Work led by the internationally known **Rev. Jeremy Taylor**, UU minister and honorary Doctor of Sacred Theology from Starr King School for the Ministry. **May 31-June 2, 2013.** Co-sponsored by the UU Ocean County Congregation and Murray Grove Retreat and Renewal Center. For details, visit [murraygrove.org](http://murraygrove.org)

## Vermont UU Spring Fling Weekend 5/25-5/28/13

Knee deep in snow, we know spring is just around the corner and so is another adventure in Vermont.

We hope you will join us this year for our Rutland UU Church Spring Fling Memorial Day Weekend event. We would appreciate your sharing the information for this event with your friends and church. Discounts for groups are available. For more information visit [springweekend.wordpress.com](http://springweekend.wordpress.com).

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual UUCSJS Native Plant Swap & Sale Fundraiser

Native Plant Swap & Sale  
Saturday, May 4

We're holding our 5th Annual Native Plant Swap for experienced and new gardeners alike. Our purpose is to promote sustainable landscaping and 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 4.** Swap details: Pick up a flyer at the Social Justice table. Our online flyers about the swap & for info on natives, non-natives, & invasives will be online soon at [www.uucsjs.org/social\\_action.html](http://www.uucsjs.org/social_action.html)

## Advance Order: Nursery-Grown Native Plant Fundraiser

Deadline for orders: April 1, pickup on May 3-4

This year, we have a fabulous collection of container grown nursery plants - in fact- over twice as many species as last year! We've selected hard-to-find shrubs and trees and those not likely to be donated as part of our annual plant swap. It is our most ambitious sale ever with 16 shrubs, 14 trees, and 10 species of perennials to select from. 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, and other info on growing natives go to: [www.uucsjs.org/social\\_action.html](http://www.uucsjs.org/social_action.html)

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please sign up at the Social Justice table to help with our Native Plant Sale & Swap and our Native Nursery-Grown Advance Sale. *We need lots of volunteer help before and during the sale.* If you can think of some other UUs that might be able to help, please let them know we are looking, and please encourage them to sign up. If you have questions or need more information, please contact me in person or via email.

Jesse Connor

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## The last gasp of Winter! Last chance for homemade soup and warm baked bread.

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!

# Reverend Charlie's Page

*Let us open our eyes to see what is beautiful  
Let us open our minds to learn what is true  
Let us open our hearts to love one another.*

This invocation, used weekly in some Unitarian Universalist congregations, can be used to guide us to this month's theme of Brokenness and Wholeness. When the Sunday Services committee selected the theme I thought it was perfect for the many religious observations which are going on in March. For example, Passover is observed this month with a feast of unleavened bread – *matzoh* – first made in haste as the Hebrew people fled Egypt.

The meal includes a simple ritual, called *Yachatz*, where the middle matzoh of a pile of three is broken in two. Great value is given to the larger half of this otherwise uninteresting piece of bread – it is declared to be “dessert!” This “afikoman” is hidden during a quiet moment in the ritual, and children delight in the search for it after the meal is done.

If breaking a piece of bread can bring such joy, could it be that there is happiness to be found in your world, whatever your situation?

This month is also the time of Lent, a Christian ritual of denial and contemplation, reflective of Jesus' retreat into the desert at the start of his ministry. This is juxtaposed with the end of his ministry in the form of Good Friday, the end of Lent. Having been raised Unitarian, I profess no understanding of this ritual, but many people who I care very much for do observe the season, giving up meat on Fridays or spending time in contemplation.

And while I have been tempted to wear a shirt saying “Eat Chocolate for Lent” because my theology involves celebration of life rather than penance for imperfection, I don't have such a shirt – and my plain one instead says: “I respect others for their spiritual path.”

If I were to make a pilgrimage this Lent, it would be to Selma, Alabama. It is there that a Unitarian Universalist minister was killed March 11, 1965. James Reeb, a UU minister, saw the brokenness of our social and political system which perpetuated

powerlessness in African American populations through terror and indifference and co-opting. Reeb responded to the call of an organization he had joined, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, to march for voting rights. The Selma March was in response to an “ambush” by Alabama police on an earlier voting rights march in February, where one protester, Jimmie Lee Jackson, was shot dead while trying to protect his mother from police. The Selma March was stopped by dogs, troopers and fire hoses and it became known as Bloody Sunday. Rev. Reeb waited in Selma for a planned protest a few days later. He and two other UU ministers were attacked as they left a restaurant, and he was clubbed to death by three white men.

The killing could be seen, along with violence against others involved in the protest, as part of a terror campaign which most UU ministers and members were either unaware of or indifferent to. Like a chick growing in an egg – an egg which, at some point must crack open – the awareness of the oppression came pouring out on the television screens of America. The nation could no longer be passive. The audience saw police attacking marchers and learned how justice was systematically perverted. Dr. King's eulogy as quoted in UU World:

“Who killed Jim Reeb?” He answered: A few ignorant men. He then asked, “What killed Jim Reeb?” and answered: “An irrelevant church, an indifferent clergy, an irresponsible political system, a corrupt law enforcement hierarchy, a timid federal government, and an uncommitted Negro population.”  
<http://www.uuworld.org/spirit/articles/2358.shtml>

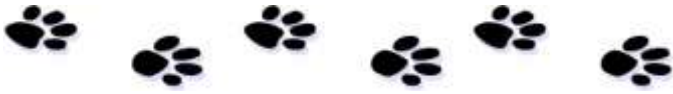
Perhaps there is something to the concept of spending a month reflecting on our blessings, our blessings of joy and mutual encouragement, our blessed minds capable of awareness and mutual support, and our blessings of love and our power to build a better world.

Amen.

Rev Charlie

**Reverend 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](mailto:minister@uucsjs.org).



## The Paw Print

Your link to the doings of the South Jersey Animal Advocates

Each Sunday in March, SJAA will collect donations for Penny Angels Beagle Rescue, a local non-profit that provides rescue, medical rehabilitation, foster and adoption services for stray beagles, beagles from New Jersey shelters, and beagles from homes that can no longer keep their dog. They would appreciate the following donations: Purina Pro Plan dog food, Purina dog biscuits or treats, collars of many sizes, leashes, ear cleaning supplies, shampoos, paper towels and towels. Financial donations to Penny Angels are tax-deductible. To learn more, visit [www.pennyangelsbeaglerescue.com](http://www.pennyangelsbeaglerescue.com) or visit Penny Angels at PetSmart in Mays Landing on Saturdays from 11 am to 3 pm.

We would like to remind everyone that the Atlantic County Animal Shelter in Pleasantville is full to capacity with cats in part because of a recent hoarder situation. The kittens and cats available for adoption are healthy, neutered or spayed, and more than ready for a new home. If you're looking for a new dish to bring to the Fellowship Dinner on March 16, why not try something vegan? Here is a great webpage that has 12 vegan potluck recipes including rice balls and tempeh reubens! Visit <http://tinyurl.com/8bcnbjp> to find out more! There are plenty of other recipes on the web. Type "vegan potluck dishes" into your favorite search engine and veg away! Or try this tasty treat the next time you are craving those chicken nuggets!

### Tofu Fingers

Prep time: 2 hours, Yield: about 4 servings

Ingredients:

- 1 lb Chinese-style extra firm tofu, pressed
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- 1 cup panko bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 t. salt, plus more for seasoning
- 1 t. ground black pepper, plus more for seasoning
- 1/4 cup canola oil

1. Cut the pressed tofu into 12-16 "finger"-sized pieces, each about 1/2" thick. Pour the vegetable broth into a large, sealable ziploc bag and gently add the tofu fingers into the liquid. Seal the bag, place the bag in the refrigerator, and let the tofu soak for 1-2 hours.

2. Drain the broth from the tofu and discard. In a medium-sized mixing bowl, combine the panko bread crumbs, flour, salt and black pepper until well mixed. Roll each tofu "finger" gently in the mixture until well coated.

3. Heat the canola oil in large frying pan or skillet over medium-high heat. Add the tofu fingers to the pan, taking care not to let them touch one another. Fry until crisp and golden brown, turning the "fingers" to brown them on all sides. Transfer tofu to a paper-towel lined plate and season with salt and black pepper to taste. Serve immediately.

"Teaching a child not to step on a caterpillar is as valuable to the child as it is to the caterpillar."

-- Bradley Millar



"Poetry is free speech."

— Garrison Keillor, *Good Poems for Hard Times* (2005)

## Book Group to Spend Ides of March Reading Aloud Poetry Favorites

**T**he **Ides of March** (Latin: *Idus Martii* or *Idus Martiae*) is the name of the 15th day of March in the Roman calendar.<sup>1</sup> This being an amazing coincidence, please join us on **Friday, March 15 at 7 pm in the UU Center Library** to share a poem or prose passage that is in some way meaningful to you. (The suggestion we read Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* was not embraced by the majority; democracy triumphed!)

We are substituting the Ides of March Poetry and Prose Confab for our original selection, *We Need to Talk About Kevin* by Lionel Shriver, about a fictional school shooting and a mother's attempt to come to terms with her son and the murders he committed. It seemed compassionate to defer our consideration of this subject since one of us has a close family member who blessedly survived the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14.

So, we turn to poetry and wonderful prose as winter inclines toward spring. What will you choose to share? Bring one or two selections, not *too* long; if it's prose, pick an excerpt. We should have time to go around the circle at least twice.

Unfortunately for me, Nortons and Oxfords lie packed in basement boxes, this after nearly eight years. So, I ventured into ex-Borders territory one day last week. For years I've admired Garrison Keillor's pushing poetry, so why not acquire one of his compendiums?

Keillor writes: "Poetry is free speech. It is ever on the side of the irrepressible spirit and in opposition to the censor, to Management, to the protocols of the company psychologist, to [those] who casually cheat schoolchildren. It is on the side of exhilaration and the stupendous vision, the sight of the stars through the barred window, the perfection of small birds, the democracy of their chattering language and of our own yakfest and hullabaloo. ..."<sup>2</sup>

April happily brings us to *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson, "funny, barbed, delightfully winsome storytelling ... never a dull moment."<sup>3</sup> Ruth Eaves moderates our discussion of this "thoroughly charming" debut novel set in the small English village of Edgecombe St. Mary.

Everyone is welcome to attend book group, no sign-up necessary. Be there as often as you can on the third Friday of the month, September through June. For information contact Judy Pereira. *Hope to see you on the Ides of March!* Bring a light snack to share, if you wish.

<sup>1</sup>Wikipedia, *the free encyclopedia*. "The word Ides comes from the Latin word "idus", a word that was used widely in the Roman calendar indicating the approximate day that was the middle of the month. The term *ides* was used for the 15th day of the months of March, May, July, and October, and the 13th day of the other months."

<sup>2</sup>Introduction, *Good Poems for Hard Times*, p. xxi

<sup>3</sup>*The New York Times*



2013-14 Stewardship Campaign

## Amazing Gratitude

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.

We have built this beautiful home, our UU Center, and we fund an incredible staff of professionals, and a very generous membership. We have much to be grateful for, which leads us to our theme for this year of “Amazing Gratitude.”

This year’s Stewardship Campaign will be like last year’s, where 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 the Sunday service on March 24. After exercising our minds in the art of appreciative inquiry, you will be asked to pledge toward our 2013-2014 fiscal year. Before this date, you will receive next year’s proposed budget and have a chance to ask questions about it.

After years of establishing a home for free thinking, religious exploration, and education, we are still learning how to extend our impact in the wider region. The UU Center will continue to provide a warm, inviting 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.

-- Paul Utts, Stewardship Chair

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Real liberation comes not from glossing over or repressing painful states of feeling, but only from experiencing them to the full.

-- C.G. Jung

If you bring forth what is within you, what you bring forth will save you. If you do not bring forth what is within you, what you do not bring forth will destroy you.

-- Jesus in the Gospel of Thomas

## 12th Annual “Walk for a New Spring”

### Walking for Peace

*For the People - For the Earth*

February 15, 2013 - April 5, 2013

Leverett, MA to Washington, DC

### Community - Sustainability - Disarmament

The walk is a six week walk led by Buddhist monastics from the New England Peace Pagoda in Leverett, MA. It will start in Leverett and end in Washington DC for the anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination, on April 5, 2013.

During the walk the group entrusts themselves to the local community along the way, and depends on them for shelter each night. They often sleep in churches, meetinghouses or private homes. They also like to hold potluck dinners each night with the local community to share a meal and talk a little about why they are walking and hear from local activists. It's a wonderful opportunity to bring renewed energy and determination for a sustainable and peaceful future.

Visit [newenglandpeacepagoda.org](http://newenglandpeacepagoda.org) for a glimpse into their walk progress.

### On Tuesday, March 19, this dedicated group will pass through Pomona NJ!

That evening, Tuesday March 19, there will be a shared meal at 6 pm in the UU Sanctuary with the Peace Walkers. From 7 to 9 pm they will present a program explaining some of the issues they want to bring awareness of. Anyone is invited to participate; let Barbara Miller or Karen York know so there will be enough food and chairs.

### UU Author Publishes First Book

Amy Wright Glenn is pleased to announce the publication of her first book *Birth, Breath, and Death: Meditations on Motherhood, Chaplaincy, and Life as a Doula*. Amy draws upon stories of growing up Mormon and finding Unitarian Universalism. She details how her UU faith supported her through hospital chaplaincy training. Amy also writes about working as a birth doula, a yoga and meditation teacher, and her profound transformation as a mother. Her book is now available in print on Amazon. It will be available on Kindle later this month. Let us celebrate and support this new UU author.

*We are born, we die, and in between these irrevocable facts of human existence the breath weaves all moments together. “Birth, Breath, and Death” entwines story, philosophy, and poetic reflection into transforming narratives that are full of grace.*

Amy Wright Glenn earned her MA in Religion and Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. She taught in The Religion and Philosophy Department at The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey for over a decade. While at Lawrenceville, Amy was the recipient of the Dunbar Abston Jr. Chair for Teaching Excellence. She is a Kripalu Yoga teacher, a DONA certified birth doula, and a hospital chaplain. Her work has appeared in *International Doula*.

**Board of Trustees**  
**HIGHLIGHTS**  
**February 2013**

The **regular monthly meeting** of the **Board of Trustees** was held on Wednesday, February 13, 2013, at 6:30 pm in the UU Center Lounge, President Karen York presiding. Opening words were read in unison to accompany lighting of the chalice, and joys and concerns were shared.

Rev. Charlie Dieterich and UUCSJS Director of Religious Education, Heidi Jansch were also present.

• **Announcements**

**1) Next Board "Talk Back"** is Sunday, February 24, Karen York and Art Wexler attending; dates are posted in the UU Center office. **2) The 2013 JPD Worship Arts Festival** will be held February 22 and 23 at UU Church in Cherry Hill; at least six members of the congregation plan to attend. **3) This year's Stewardship theme** is "Amazing Gratitude"; the congregation-wide Fellowship Dinner (shared meal and talent show) will be held on Saturday, March 16, followed on March 24 by Commitment Sunday. The campaign is led by Paul Utts; a small group, "appreciative inquiry" process will take place after the Commitment Sunday services. **4) Karen York and John & Betsy Searight** visited our sponsoring congregation, **First UU of Wilmington**, on February 10 and met with First UU's Denominational Growth Committee. **5) The Atlantic City Long Term Recovery Group** is seeking volunteer canvassers for Saturday, February 16 to help identify continuing needs for assistance in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. For more information, contact Richard Grzywinski.

• **Discussion/Action Items**

**1) Covenant draft – next steps.** At the Board's request, Heidi Jansch generously agreed to circulate the draft "UUCSJS Covenant of Right Relations" via email to participants in the Saturday, January 12 workshop, allowing seven (7) days to submit comments. These will be forwarded to the Board and next steps decided upon. "When members of the group make the promises, they are inclined to hold themselves accountable..." DRE Jansch has written. "When there is a disruption or disagreement, the covenant can be used as a reference and a reminder..."

**2) Peace Pilgrimage.** The Board unanimously approved opening the UU Center on Tuesday, March 19 to the walkers of the 12th Annual "Walk for a New Spring" initiated by the New England Peace Pagoda. This will include hosting a shared meal, offering lodging in our building (on the floor of the sanctuary), and waiving any and all use fees. Guests are invited to join the walk at any point for any length of time, respecting that the walk is free of drugs, alcohol, and weapons. "Each step will be a prayer toward World Peace and a Nuclear Free Future." Barbara Reynolds, Quaker friend of the congregation, Peace Pilgrim's sister, and others will join in providing hospitality to this group, committed to walking 400 miles from Leverett, MA to Washington, DC, between February 15 and April 5.

**3) Information Technology (IT) policies.** New IT policies and procedures will be put in place as soon as feasible, to assure password protection for internal computers, for example, and propose Internal and External policies for "acceptable use" and other best practices to navigate public sites and social media.

**4) Cleaning update.** Joe Terrazzini and Jeff Taylor have developed a new cleaning schedule and restructured priorities so that greater attention is given to the areas which matter most – foyer and sanctuary. They met on February 11 with our cleaning company about this and other ongoing concerns. To better the condition of the scuffed sanctuary floor, it was decided to apply a new eco-safe product while mopping to help seal and protect. *The new maintenance routine will require congregation members to shift chairs to the side after Sunday*

*services in preparation for the bi-weekly mopping of first one side, then the other. You'll hear more!*

**5) Heidi's request.** DRE Jansch requested an unprecedented, but well-deserved summer break, unanimously approved by the Board. Heidi will be absent from June 16 to August 18, and we will have a "Volunteer DRE" each Sunday. This is not a request for sabbatical leave and she is not expecting to be paid for the time off. We wish her "best rest"!

• **Minister's Report.** Rev. Charlie confirmed his vacation break from February 21 to 27 in Florida. Further details on activities in February can be found in his monthly report to the Board.

• **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer John Searight said this month's budget spreadsheet covers October 2012 through January 2013, providing information on income and expenses, amounts remaining in various budget categories, and where there are surpluses and deficits. "It does not, however, explicate the difficult financial situation we face as we enter the final five months of the fiscal year."

The treasurer told the Board it's difficult to determine exactly how much we are likely to be short this spring. Many savings have already been identified and the budget reconfigured accordingly. Giving perspective, it was noted that as a young congregation, we haven't had a chance to build up a healthy reserve, substantial endowment, or history of legacies and bequests. In addition, we carry a substantial mortgage. We have not been able for three or four months to grow our Reserve Funds.

The Board discussed a number of ways to improve our financial position, due almost entirely to unanticipated expenses, and productive ideas emerged for further thought. Meanwhile, the new Fundraising committee is developing initiatives, the Native Plant Sale in spring has become very important, and the FUUN committee has plans to sponsor a concert by well-regarded performer, Gina Roche. Finance committee member Carl Benner appeared before the congregation on February 10 urging us all to purchase more grocery cards, as sales are down.

Concluding his report, Treasurer Searight said Kathleen Hartnett, UUCSJS Bookkeeper, continues to seek assistance with QuickBooks from knowledgeable members of the congregation.

• **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.  
– Judy Pereira, *Secretary*

The **NEXT REGULAR MEETING** of  
the Board of Trustees will be held on  
**Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 6:30 PM**  
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**

Office Administrator, Michelle Tomko  
Director of Religious Education (DRE), Heidi Jansch  
Music Director, Worship Coordinator, Barbara Miller  
Bookkeeper, Kathleen Hartnett

## ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are now finishing up our fourth session of *Small Group Ministry for Adults*. There is still an opportunity for those of you who would like to join in as the two groups are considering continuing on through the Spring.

Participation requires agreement to a covenant of confidentiality and interaction to make sharing safe for all. At each 90 minute session there is an opportunity to share perspectives on a selected topic. This sort of continuing community allows for sharing of many thoughts and emotions in a safe environment, and you may find it helps you feel a part of our community. Couples may attend a group together or be in different groups as they choose.

We now have two groups: Tuesday evening in Cape May Court House and the other, Thursday evening in Mays Landing. We are, however, open to starting groups in other areas our congregation serves such as Galloway or Ocean County.

Other programs that we are considering for the Spring include:

- *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander, has been selected as the 2012-13 Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Common Read. A Common Read invites participants to read and discuss the same book in a given period of time. It can build community in our congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared experience, shared language, and a basis for deep meaningful conversations. If this sounds like something that would interest you, please let us know.
- **Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership** is a program developed in response to the needs of UU lay leaders for leadership skill development that goes hand-in-hand with faith development. Keep an eye and an ear open as we put together this program for the spring and fall.

We now offer a **new and easy method to contact us and/or register** for any Adult RE course. Send an e-mail to [AdultRE.uucsjs@gmail.com](mailto:AdultRE.uucsjs@gmail.com).

-- Prim Reeves, Chair, Adult RE

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**Margaret Circle** will meet on March 7 at 1 pm in the library. The meeting begins with our personal sharing time. Betsy Searight will be our hostess for the afternoon. Kim Trotto will enlighten us with her discussion of the book *American Nations* by Colin Woodard. Mr. Woodard contends that "America's most essential and abiding divisions stem from the fact that the US is a federation of eleven regional nations." He gives a clear historical explanation for why Americans cannot agree on such basic issues as the role of religion in public life or even what it means to be an American. Please try to attend for fellowship and enrichment. -- *Judy Brown, Circle Leader*

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You are all things. Denying, rejecting, judging or hiding from any aspect of your total being creates pain and results in a lack of wholeness.

-- Joy Page

## CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Growing Together this Spring

It is a wonderful thing when parents of young children discover Unitarian Universalism and join our congregation! Since being the parent of young UUs doesn't come without its challenges, the Children's RE Committee would like to invite all parents and guardians of UUCSJS religious education students to attend a five-session course this spring titled *Being a UU Parent*. We are currently in the planning stages of offering this program and our tentative dates are Thursday evenings April 25, May 2, May 9, May 16 and May 23 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Watch for more information and a sign-up sheet this month, or contact me at [sjsdre@gmail.com](mailto:sjsdre@gmail.com) to learn more.

Attending a course like *Being a UU Parent* is an opportunity to discuss issues that affect us as UU's, parents, and UU parents, as well as a great way to get to know other parents in our congregation. The sessions will include discussions of values, family life, resources for UUism in the home, holidays and celebrations, and living out our beliefs.

And speaking of holidays and celebrations, one of the celebrations that is a tradition for UUCSJS students is our annual Egg Hunt and Easter Party, which will take place on Sunday, March 31 during our usual class time.

*Happy Spring!*

Heidi J Jansch  
Director of Religious Education

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The **UUCSJS Men's Group** meets on the third Tuesday of each month. If you would like to attend or want more information please contact Dave King (he's in the Member Directory).

### Wonderful UU women -- a new Mama Gena Group !

The second incarnation of our women's group based on the books written by Mama Gena (Regena Thomashauer) will be known as Women Evolving (WE).

The Mama Gena movement and the BraveHeart organization are women's groups that are sweeping us into the fourth wave of feminism! Women are claiming their Divine right to their pleasure, desires, and their Goddessness!

This WE group is a positive group that supports women in all of their complexity. It's a group that will take everyone Higher! We will learn to brag about ourselves, speak about our desires and talk about what we are grateful for. We will also learn lots of tools to address those times that we are "in the swamp" or not doing well. Contact me if you are interested and I will let you know time, date and place. -- Theresa McReynolds

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

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**March 2013**

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Congregation of the South Jersey Shore  
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