



NEWSLETTER

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the
South Jersey Shore



Volume 15, Issue 04

April 2013

April Services “Transformation”

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.

April 7	<p>An Atheist UU: From “Born-Into” Religion to Unitarian-Universalism <i>Lay Speaker Carl Benner</i></p> <p>With some 90% of our members born into a religion other than UU, Carl's personal story should resonate. As he indicates some of his current religious ideas/beliefs, the all-inclusive nature of our group should become quite evident.</p>
April 14	<p>Peace is Soooo Passive! <i>Reverend Charlie Dieterich</i></p> <p>The quote in the title came from my discussion with Colby Tippins and Doug Dickinson regarding the "Win a sermon title of your choice" auction item. Colby wanted a sermon on Peace, but not the type of peace that calls for passiveness! You mean like some sort of peace march? Come see what it means.</p>
April 21	<p>Burn On: Earth Day’s Light of Truth and Fire of Commitment <i>Lay Speaker Ron Hutchison</i></p> <p>On a Sunday morning in 1969, the Cuyahoga River caught on fire. This event, little-publicized at the time, went on to serve as a symbol for the nascent environmental movement, contributing to the passage of the federal Clean Water Act. In the early 1970’s, I grew up near the banks of the Cuyahoga River, and this experience had a profound effect on my journey to environmental action. This sermon will explore the roles that individuals play in the health of our biosphere.</p>
April 28	<p>Becoming UU <i>Reverend Charlie Dieterich</i></p> <p>A noted Universalist minister was once asked "What do Universalists stand for?" He replied: "We don't stand, we move!" Indeed, being Unitarian Universalist is not an end point, but a journey. Where are we going? What are we?</p>



Circle Dinners are underway again!

Saturday, April 20
Saturday, May 18

If your plans have changed, or would like to sign up as a regular or alternate, contact Marie Taylor ASAP!

Gina Roche Concert

May 11, 2013

Stay tuned for further details.

What's Happening at Murray Grove?

The Dreaming Mind and Our Collective Journey Toward Wholeness

Intensive Dream Work led by the internationally known UU Rev. Jeremy Taylor

May 31-June 2, 2013

REGISTER BY APRIL 15TH FOR OUR "EARLY BIRD" RATES

For details, visit murraygrove.org

Time to replace that fading bumper sticker?

CafePress selection of UU-themed stickers:

<http://www.cafepress.com/+unitarian-universalist+bumper-stickers>



Standing On The Side of Love

<http://bit.ly/10obElk>



UniUni LLC

<http://goo.gl/Oluer>



CELEBRATE EARTH DAY AT UU BY HELPING PLANT NATIVE SHRUBS

We're looking for volunteers to help with several landscaping tasks after service on Sunday, April 21. We need volunteers to help plant fifty, 1-gallon native shrubs on the upper northern rim of our detention basin. We have recently reached an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and joined their Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. This partnership is a win for UUCSJS: it affords us free and expert advice and guidelines on how to best manage our basin to optimize its value to wildlife, as well as free signage, and free native plants (the 50 shrubs we will be planting!).

We also need help removing dead limbs and branches from the woods closest to the building and help culling or transplanting woody shrubs and trees that have sprung up in the basin.

We have tools in our shed, but if you have favorite tools, please plan on bringing them. And please consider celebrating Earth Day – in spirit and action – with us on April 21.

Jesse Connor

Volunteers Needed on Friday, May 3, and Saturday, May 4, for our 5th ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT FUNDRAISER!

We need lots of volunteer help before and during our upcoming Native Plant Sale & Swap and our Native Nursery-Grown Advance Sale. We need volunteers on Friday, May 3, in the morning, to help offload the plants and organize them for pickup. And we need volunteers in 2-3 hour shifts from 8:00 am until 3:30 pm to help with the sale. You can sign up at the Social Justice table to help. 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 via email. Want more information about the sale? Go to our own website at UUCSJS.org.

Jesse Connor

Spring erupts! Asparagus and fiddleheads are in season.

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

There is a collection of stories told about a Christian community of monks who lived in the Egyptian Desert during the fourth century CE. The words of the desert fathers (they called each other "Abba" meaning "father") are various, and sometimes charming. Here's one example:

Abba Lot went to see Abba Joseph and he said to him, "Abba, as far as I can, I say my little office, I fast a little, I pray and meditate, I live in peace and as far as I can I purify my thoughts. What else can I do?" Then the old man stood up and stretched his hands toward heaven; his fingers became like ten lamps of fire and he said to him, "If you will, you can become all flame."

(www.coptic.net/articles/ParadiseOfDesertFathers.txt)

This month the Worship Committee selected "Transformation" as a theme for our services, and April is that month where transformation is completely obvious! Maybe there are no flames coming from our fingers, but brilliance bursts from treebuds, and grasses stir to life. Birds fill the beaches and sky, heading north or finding a place to raise a family, with the inevitable arguments about territory and squawks for communal safety. We are challenged to break out of our winter routines, to find new ways of being genuine, or discovering what genuine means. It's spring, come join the dance.

Passover gives Jewish families a reason to clean their kitchens completely, but it was usually the arrival of ants that motivated me, and the change of foods from warm winter ones to dash-out-the-door Summer ones. Put away the shovel, try the lawnmower. That was, indeed, the way things went when I was basically happy with the routine -- our open space group had spring and fall foliage walks, Arbor Day, the Town Picnic, The Kingston Fire Company Annual Pancake Breakfast (I will be gone April 7. Come to the Oceanville Oyster Dinner on the 13th to get an idea what these things are like -- check out <http://oceanvillevfc.org>).

But what if the routine doesn't serve you anymore? How do you "Transform" your life? Many New Year's Resolutions attempt to change behavior, but usually the routine will reappear in a time of crisis, and the change won't last. The magic of a twelve-step program is that your behavior changes by attending meetings, and within the meetings, your frame of understanding is challenged by hearing other people confronting the same problem (usually an addiction) from other points of view. Another thing to do is to join a religious community and give yourself over to how they see the world and their definition of proper behavior.

Within our Unitarian Universalist context, we have covenanted to "affirm and promote" a "free and responsible search for truth and meaning" and this includes helping each other search. Neither affirming nor promoting are easy. Affirming is more than repeating the words; it involves seeing other people's search as valuable *to you*. That was illustrated well last month when Michael Cluff and Helene Gentile presented a talk on the serenity prayer from an Atheist and from a Christian point of

view. Each affirmed the others search for truth, even though it was not their own.

But what about promoting a search for meaning? We have to go beyond having books on a shelf which anyone can borrow. A few decades ago, if a young member of a UU congregation decided to join the Navy, members of that (hypothetical) congregation might say prayers of mourning for the young man's evil decision. "We affirm your decisions if they agree with ours" was the message there. As congregations have matured they have come to see that there is no love in telling others what they must think. Indeed, now there are US Navy chaplains who are UU, and the UUA and minister's association promote study of UU principles for those in the military. We need not think alike to love alike (as the saying goes). Imposing my solutions on you is not loving to you... or to me!

And yet, how do we promote a search? I say we do it by creating moments for listening, by sharing in small groups, by speaking from the heart. As we say so often, each of us has a flame within us. Tending and encouraging the growth of meaning within each other is everyone's duty.

Two women from northern New England, Meck Groot and Hilary Allen, have been contemplating how the concept of "Beloved Community" can transform social justice work, and I see it as an opportunity for our congregation to grow into a more loving group. They contrast the "Dominant Activist" way of thinking, where the congregation espouses something because most of the congregation wants it, to a "Beloved Community" way of working together.

They teach: See the world as a religious place or spiritual place with many points of view, rather than one political framework. Refuse to create "us" and "them" -- "there is only us -- all of us." Rather than depending on experts, listen to everyone, and use Power to restore right relationship, rather than to control "them." They suggest we stop talking about "rights" and talk about humanity, and concentrate on relationship rather than things. And here is the cool line I wanted to get to: "Issues reflect a way of life to be transformed." This contrasts with issues being problems to be solved. The transformation of life is work of HOPE, not the work of POWER.

How can we transform this planet with our care? How can we tend the fire of commitment? How can we break out of our labels earned in the dominant activist days and stand on the side of love, creating beloved community for all? Don't sleep through April, you might miss the dawning of a new spring!

Rev Charlie

**Reverend Charlie's office hours at the UU Center for April
10 am to 2 pm Wednesdays**

EXCEPT April 17; that week it will be on Thursday instead.

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.



2013-2014
Stewardship Campaign

Amazing Gratitude

A big thank-you to all who participated in our “Amazing Gratitude” activities on Commitment Sunday (and before). We now have pledge commitments from 68 individuals and families representing 69% of our congregation. We have reached 89.5% (\$141,470) of our goal (\$158,000). The remaining 10.5% (\$16,530) is vital if we want to continue the programs and ministries we presently have. Large, medium, or small, any remaining pledges will make a difference.

In gratitude: John Searight, Treasurer

Calling All Pledges!

On the day we call Commitment Sunday, folks met in small groups to affirm what they value about our congregation, and made their pledges of financial support. Those who have not yet had a chance to make their pledges are invited to meet in the Library following the service this Sunday, March 31. Bring your coffee. There will be a time for conversation and questions, and you can make your pledge. If this does not work for you, you may make your pledge over the next few Sundays, or you may email your pledge directly to our Treasurer, John Searight.

A Note of Thanks!

Sincere appreciation to the March Stewardship Campaign Team including, but not limited to Paul Utts, Karen York, and Betsy Searight.

Commitment Sunday facilitators for small “Appreciate Inquiry” groups were (in no particular order), Art and Angela Wexler, Bill and Peg Felix, Marsha Hannah, Jim Gentile, Prim Reeves, Paul Utts, Karen York, Margaret Rea, Barbara Miller, and Betsy Searight, supported by John Searight. Coffee and bagels were and served by Richard Schurig and his crew, among them Karen Zindell, Bud Smith, Bob and Carolyn Baum, and Helene Gentile.

“If we don’t change, we don’t grow. If we don’t grow, we are not really living.” – Gail Sheehy

“A great pleasure ... There’s more than a bit of Romeo and Juliet here.” – *Los Angeles Times*

Book Group to Plumb Edgecombe St. Mary in April with *Major Pettigrew*

In Helen Simonson’s debut novel, set in the small village of Edgecombe St. Mary in the English countryside, an unexpected friendship transpires between our unlikely hero, Major Ernest Pettigrew (retired) and Mrs. Jasmina Ali (widow). Drawn together by love of literature and shared loss of spouses, village society embraces him as quintessentially local while regarding her as the permanent foreigner. *Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand* poses the question, “Can their relationship survive the risks one takes when pursuing happiness in the face of culture and tradition?”¹

Join us on **Friday evening, April 19 at 7 pm in the UU Center Library** to talk about this “thoroughly charming” book, named one of 2010’s best by *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor*, and *Globe and Mail*, among others. Ruth Eaves picked this selection and will lead our discussion. Bring a light snack to share if you wish.

Author Helen Simonson was born in England and spent her teenage years in a small village in East Sussex. A graduate of the London School of Economics, she also earned an MFA and was formerly a travel advertising executive. She has lived in America for the last two decades; longtime resident of Brooklyn, she now lives with her husband and two sons in the Washington, D.C. area.

To whet your appetite further, consider these remarks: “To make yourself just feel good and indulge in a good laugh, grab this charming book!”² Another reviewer says, “The characters are well developed, the language beautifully crafted, and the story delightful.”³ And finally, the venerable *NY Times* tells us, “... intelligence, heart, dignity and backbone. *Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand* has them all.”

After this there are only two books remaining on this year’s list. For **May**, *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts (2005), described as an intimate and illuminating look at the passionate and patriotic women who proved crucial to forging the new nation. And last but certainly not least, Ann Patchett’s *State of Wonder* (2011) in **June**, “truly a thing of beauty and mystery, much like the Amazon jungle itself.”⁴

Everyone is welcome to come to book group, no sign-up necessary. Plan to attend as often as you can every third Friday, September through June. For more information and to receive reminders, contact Judy Pereira. Hope to see you there Friday, April 19!

¹Random House book description (quoted on Amazon)

^{2,3}Reviewers P.B. Sharp and “Avid Reader” (amazon.com)

⁴*Jessica Schein (amazon.com reviewer)*

Message from UUCSJS President Karen York

Promises from the Heart

One of my favorite authors and source of inspiration is Parker Palmer. I have referenced before his “five habits of the heart that help make democracy possible.” Parker Palmer’s fifth habit is about “the capacity to create community.” As President of the congregation, I am deeply aware of how much more can be accomplished in community than can be accomplished as individuals, and I am also aware that creating community is an active intentional process.

As an example of how much more can be accomplished in community than as individuals, I highlight our hosting the Buddhist monastics from the New England Peace Pagoda in Leverett, MA as they traveled through our area in March, walking from Massachusetts to Washington D.C. This was a beautiful event, an evening filled with grace, gratitude, sharing and connection. They plan to end the walk with a ceremony in Washington DC on Friday April 5, 2013. Anyone who is able is invited to join them in Washington for that ceremony. For our contribution to their travels, we collaborated with the local Quakers and members of the Coalition for Peace and Justice. Collaboration with other groups such as this extends our voice, and contributes to our ability to affect change. Moreover, the outcome that comes from such collaboration is often beyond the vision of any individual or group.

So it is great to seek collaborations to increase our impact to affect change. However, to the point that creating community is an active intentional process, we need to recognize maintaining a Unitarian Universalist community that welcomes people with different points of view is an inherent challenge. It becomes important in our community, that we have the humility to recognize our individual limitations and stay open to hearing others’ points of views. This reminds me of the familiar story often told in UU circles of the blind men and the elephant. Each blind man is touching a different part of the elephant, its ears, or tail, or legs, or side, or trunk, and each has a very different description of the elephant. Each is certain of their experience, and yet their descriptions are completely contradictory. Each blind man is insisting they know the truth of the elephant, yet because the elephant is large and each is touching only a part of the elephant, no one person can know the whole truth.

Similarly, no one individual can understand the whole truth about any of the big religious questions, and each of us experiences life through our own lenses and it takes a conscious effort to keep your mind open and really listen to the ideas of others, especially when they contradict your own experience. It is possible that the truth is larger than one anyone can experience and we have to actively seek to listen in order to understand the whole elephant.

We have been working since January on developing a Covenant of Right Relations to articulate and clarify our expectations of one another for being together in community. Prior to this initiative, we had assumed that the UU principles provided a sufficient framework for building community, but the covenant provides a more explicit "promise from the heart" of what we strive for in our community. Many voices have contributed to the development of the statement. The Covenant of Right Relations provides some ground rules to help us to respect the point of view of others and to help us grow in acceptance. It is important that each of us reflect on the Covenant words and ask *ourselves* what we can do to be in better relation with other members of our community. I see it as a tool of inner reflection and soul work as well as a tool for building community. May you discover new ways to practice hospitality, show respect, foster open and direct communication, build trust, provide support, accept responsibility, and practice forgiveness. I hope we can continue to learn and grow in community together as we begin to implement this "promise from the heart" into our culture and everyday interactions.

Board of Trustees
HIGHLIGHTS
March 2013

The **regular monthly meeting** of the **UUCSJS Board of Trustees** was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the UU Center, President Karen York presiding. Chalice lighting words affirming our shared principles were read in unison, and joys and concerns were shared.

Rev. Charlie observed that many congregants have been struggling with family and health concerns in the past month, and VP Debbi Dagavarian shared her joy in accepting an invitation to serve on the Board of Trustees of Murray Grove. *Congratulations, Deb!*

• **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1) The March 24 **Board Talk-Back** is cancelled due to conflict with Appreciative Inquiry pledge circles because it's Commitment Sunday. Future dates are posted in the UU Center office.

2) This year's **Stewardship campaign theme** is "Amazing Gratitude" and the final event, **Commitment Sunday** on March 24. Pledging continues after that date.

3) This year's **UUCSJS Annual Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, June 9, 2013** immediately after the service.

4) The **Joseph Priestley District (JPD) Assembly** will be held April 12-13 at the University of Delaware-Wilmington Campus; this includes JPD's 2013 annual meeting. No one is yet slated to attend.

5) **Warning!** We received an alert that the following email address IS NOT our Rev. Charlie: "charles dietrich charlie.dietrich@gmail.com"

6) Donations to the **Community FoodBank of NJ** from mid-January to mid-February amounted to 134 pounds. *Thank you for contributing so generously!*

• **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

1) **UUA General Assembly (GA), June 19-23, 2013, Louisville, KY.** The official information packet has arrived and contains credentials for three (3) UUCSJS delegates to this year's GA; delegates are confirmed by ballot at the Annual Meeting. The Board will determine beforehand whether any delegate votes at GA require advance authorization by the congregation.

2) **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service contract.** Jesse Connor has informed us that UUCSJS has the opportunity for our detention basin to be designated as a habitat restoration project under the Fish & Wildlife Service's *Partners for Fish & Wildlife* program. This provides \$250 in native plant materials and requires UUCSJS to provide in-kind labor worth an equal amount. The Board voted unanimously to authorize signing the Wildlife Cooperative Extension Agreement to maintain restoration measures for at least 10 years; the agreement may be modified by mutual consent and may be terminated by either party. We thereby accept certain responsibilities, such as monitoring for invasive species. Fish & Wildlife will be putting up a sign identifying us as participating in native habitat restoration. *Thank you, Jesse.*

3) **Update on floor cleaning.** Kinks are still being worked out; our cleaning service will now be able to shift chairs *back* after mopping on Mondays! *Thanks to everyone for cooperation in moving chairs to alternating sides of the Sanctuary after services each week.*

4) **Staff Evaluations.** The Board will need to decide as soon as possible how we wish to accomplish staff evaluations this spring.

5) **Parish Ministry Board Evaluation.** The Board will again perform this assignment on Rev. Charlie's behalf (and our own) sometime before the July 1 deadline.

6) The following DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS were moved by unanimous vote to Executive Session later in the evening, following the regular Board meeting: **Right Relations conference follow-up; Plan for joint meeting of the Board, Committee on Ministry (COM), Caring, Membership; and Right Relations policy.**

• **REPORTS**

1) **Minister's Report.** Rev. Charlie confirmed he was fairly "out of it" for much of the month while recovering from back surgery on March 5, and he thanked the Caring Team for support with food, transport, and more. He said he has seen an increase in the need for pastoral care this month (in addition to his own).

Upcoming travel plans include the Minister's Group on April 2; Crisis Response Training April 14-17 at Murray Grove (he will be available by phone for emergencies); and a Minister's Retreat April 28-May 1 in Delaware.

Augmenting his written Board report, Rev. Charlie said he hopes in the coming year to encourage folks who are aspiring ministers to speak here at UUCSJS, bringing a wider view of UU preaching to the congregation.

2) **Treasurer's Report.** The treasurer said that due to Stewardship campaign work and other factors, he had not been able to prepare the usual written report and spreadsheet for tonight's meeting. A few brief items:

-*Stewardship campaign.* Searight said he is hoping for a strong response this coming Commitment Sunday; at the moment we have some \$110,000 in new pledges from lead donors and others; \$158,000 is our goal. He observed that the budget drive often looks good at this point but becomes more difficult inspiring those who remain. Their pledges can make the real difference.

-*Budget shortfall.* The treasurer told the Board he continues to foresee a shortfall in the neighborhood of \$20,000 later this spring; we may know more at the end of March when we finish the third quarter of our fiscal year. We are able to maintain only a minimal balance in our operating account and reserves continue to be low at only around \$11,000. The Finance committee has yet to recommend its preferred way to handle any actual shortfall, but will likely suggest the burden needs to be shared and help sought collectively from the entire UUCSJS community.

-*Spring fundraising.* The current budget anticipates some \$3,000 from spring fundraisers, such as the Native Nursery-Grown Plant Sale on May 4-5 (advance orders are due April 3). And on a positive note, the new Fundraising committee has arranged a special performance by jazz vocalist and guitarist Gina Roché for May 11 at our UU Center. (Maybe budget expectations will be exceeded!)

Summing up, Searight said finances remain very tight; we will get through March and into April; and then, we will need to reassess and see just where things stand.

• **Adjournment** – The next meeting was set for *Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 pm*; the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm and reconvened immediately in Executive Session until 9:40 pm.

– Judy Pereira, *Secretary*

The **NEXT REGULAR MEETING** of
the UUCSJS Board of Trustees will be held on
Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 6:30 pm
in the Lounge at the UU Center,
75 S. Pomona Rd.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Helping to give our members and friends the information and support necessary to find their own way along their spiritual path.

Small Group Ministry for Adults will continue on thru the Spring! Currently meetings are set for Monday evenings in Southern Ocean County, Tuesday evenings in Dennisville (Cape May County) and Thursday evenings in Mays Landing. We are still putting together other groups as members and friends from the Galloway-Egg Harbor area register.

Program topics in the past have ranged from "Who's Keeping Score" to "Living with Uncertainty." If you are interested in joining in this speaking-from-the-heart group, please reply online at adultre.uucsjs@gmail.com or sign up at the back of the sanctuary. It is important to tell us which evening is best for you.

Coming May 5: The New Jim Crow book discussion. We are planning a 90-minute discussion of the book on Sunday, May 5 after the service (child care and a light lunch will be provided). Prepare now by reading the book in April. The book may be available in your library, may be purchased thru the UUA Bookstore (or other book stores), and is available on Kindle. There will soon be two books in our own library which may be borrowed.

If you have questions about the book or the discussion, contact Prim Reeves or any member of the Adult RE Committee. If you are interested in being part of the discussion, please sign-up on the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary or at adultre.uucsjs@gmail.com.

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander, is the book that 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.

-- Prim Reeves, Chair, Adult RE

Margaret Circle will meet Thursday, April 4, at 1 pm in the library. Kathryn Kelley will be presenting a program based on the article "The Miracle Cure" by Martha Beck written for "The Oprah Magazine". Got a bad habit? Need to lose weight? Want to improve your relationships and be enduringly happy? Martha Beck has the perfect prescription: a little remedy she calls salve. -- *Judy Brown, Circle Leader*

"Your mind can grasp intellectual ideas, but it is in the FEELING where the transformation takes place."
-- Stephen Richards

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

April in Children's RE

In addition to our regularly scheduled Sunday programing, this month our families have two special opportunities to learn and grow: a community service visit to the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge and the first of five sessions of our **Being a UU Parent** workshop.

Katy Cardwell, Chair of the Children's RE Committee, has arranged a volunteer opportunity for the CRE parents and children at the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge in Galloway on Sunday, April 21, 2013 from approximately 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Forsythe was hit very hard by Storm Sandy, and its eight-mile road is still closed due to storm damage, but they still have other nature paths that are open, which could benefit from a clean-up. They will provide bags for us to walk the trails and pick up any litter or debris. They also have some new displays in the visitor's center that will provide an educational opportunity for us to learn about the refuge and its mission. We ask that those who want their children to participate should accompany their children and be willing to help with the clean-up effort. If everyone can bring their own bag lunches we can picnic outside, weather permitting, before getting to work. We will be looking to sign up participants starting Sunday, April 7. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Katy Cardwell.

Our Children's RE Committee invites all parents and guardians of UUCSJS religious education students to attend a five-session course titled **Being a UU Parent** scheduled for Thursday evenings April 25, May 2, May 9, May 16 and May 23 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. This program offers an opportunity to discuss issues that affect us as 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. Childcare will be provided if needed. If you are interested in attending, signup at the back table in the sanctuary or contact the Director of Religious Education, Heidi Jansch at sjsdre@gmail.com to learn more.

Heidi Jansch and Katy Cardwell

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).

"Personal transformation can and does have global effects. As we go, so goes the world, for the world is us. The revolution that will save the world is ultimately a personal one."

-- Marianne Williamson

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

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Board of Trustees 2012-13

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April 2013

Newsletter – Mariann Maene – newsletter@uucsjs.org

Visit us on the Web: www.uucsjs.org

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