



# NEWSLETTER



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the  
South Jersey Shore

Volume 18, Issue 5

May 2016

## May Services

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

<p><b>May 1</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Justice and Income Inequality</b> <i>Lay speaker Kit Marlowe</i></p> <p>Our second principle calls for “justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.” Inequality in both wealth and income moves the USA further from this goal every year. Between 1979 and 2012, the richest 0.01% saw their incomes increase 467%. The poorest fifth saw a decrease in real income of 12.1%. Member Kit Marlowe will describe how federal and state policies “rig the game” so that the rich get richer. He will discuss ways that UUs can advocate for an economy that affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person.</p>
<p><b>May 8</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Taking a Different Road</b> <i>Guest speaker Mike Holliday</i></p> <p>Mike Holliday is a Singer-Songwriter from Pottstown PA. He has taken his music and message from Pennsylvania to Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Florida, Massachusetts and points in between. He will share how "Taking a Different Road" has given him a voice.</p>
<p><b>May 15</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Time of Your Life</b> <i>Rev. Cynthia Cain</i></p> <p>“Time is everything. <i>So what does it mean if you have none?</i>” More than anything, the bane of UU institutional existence is the lack of time people seem to have for both the tasks and the community building parts of shared ministry. I worry about that. Do you?</p>
<p><b>May 22</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Come to the Table</b> <i>Rev. Cynthia Cain</i></p> <p>We’ll be using the metaphor of food (as well as actual food) to talk about key concepts of how community works (and does not work). How will you go forward? What is your mission? How do you honor each new person, their talents and skills and passion, while keeping the ship on course.</p> <p><i>I’ll be looking for 10 volunteers to prepare a dish that speaks to their heritage and feeds about 6 people. Please let me know via email or phone if you can do this, and also tell me briefly about what you will make and the ingredients.</i></p>
<p><b>May 29</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>WICKED!</b> <i>Rev. Cynthia Cain</i></p> <p>A take on the <i>Wizard of Oz</i> classic, which, it turns out, lends itself beautifully to UU interpretation and metaphors about community.</p>

**Annual Congregational Meeting – Sunday, June 5, 2016**

*All committees please submit your annual report to Judy Pereira.*

*See page 5 for details.*

**Margaret Circle...** The women of UUCSJS are welcome to attend Margaret Circle on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 1 pm in the UU Center library. After our sharing of Joys and Concerns we will delight in the refreshment offerings of Kim Trotto. Afterwards, Arlene Yacka will present "The Hidden World of Secret Societies: An Illustrated History of the Most Mysterious Societies." Arlene invites us to listen and learn, discuss and be challenged by the known and the unknown.

**Book Lovers** This month's meeting will be on Friday, May 20 at 7 pm in the UU Center library. The selection for May is *SECRETS OF A CHARMED LIFE* by Susan Meissner. This thoughtful story about lost love and times past moves from present-day Oxford to WWII London in the 1940s. "Meissner's prose is exquisite, and she is a stunning storyteller." Debbi Dagavarian will be leading our discussion. All are welcome to attend.

## Are you interested in the Chalice Table...?

Have you ever looked at the Chalice Table on Sunday morning and wondered about how it came to look "that way this week"? Or have you thought... "Hmmm, I could have made a better match to this week's theme"? *Now* is your chance to learn more about being on the "Chalice Table Crew". I invite you to "check-in" with me following the service any Sunday between now and May 29 to ask questions, shadow me, and get a copy of the guidelines. If you decide to give it a try, there will be a group "training session" (or 2) in June, during which you will have a chance to refresh your memory of the job if you have previously been a member of the crew, or try your hand if you have not done so in the past.

I (Margaret Rea) confess that, when I am "in residence" here in NJ, I tend to "hog the job." I do not sing or play an instrument and do not have patience to work every week with children. I do enjoy thinking about how I can enrich (or at least not detract from) the beauty of the front of the sanctuary, and perhaps create a visual "echo" of the Message.

Each summer, my husband Michael & I spend 2-3 months at our condo in Cedar City UT. This year we will be changing our itinerary. Michael retires at the end of June and we hope to spend both summer and winter in Utah, with spring and fall in NJ.

Starting in July, there will be approximately 13 "summer" Sundays that the Chalice Table will need TLC from members of the congregation who identify as Chalice Table Crew members. In January and continuing through March there will be approximately 13 "winter" Sundays that the Chalice Table Crew will again be "on".

I find the job rewarding and hope that you will also. Please do not hesitate to speak with me before or after any service.

**Support our congregation by doing what you already do – buy groceries!**  
with gift cards for your local Acme or Shoprite!

Using these gift cards for groceries nets the congregation 5%.  
We also have Fair Trade coffee, tea, and chocolate!



# WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FAMILY PROMISE?

## Hosting Families Update

We are very close to hosting! Family Promise of Atlantic County now has a Day Center at Zion Lutheran church in Egg Harbor City. Absecon United Methodist Church has just donated a used van, but Family Promise still needs another 14-passenger van or panel truck. If you know anyone who can donate either of these, please let one of our UUCSJS Family Promise Team know (Colby, Barb, Janet, or Debbi). **More great news!** UUCSJS may be one of the first congregations to host once we are operational – perhaps as early as May or June – as we are the most prepared and equipped of all the host congregations to date!

## Celebrate Spring with an Auction Event! *There's a Spot For You!*

**Wine tasting at the Utts home** – new date! Saturday, May 21. Bonus: see their new remodeling! \$30 each – 6 spaces left  
**Jewelry Workshop** – Debbi Dagavarian will help you to make jewelry, and supply the material, at her home in Little Egg Harbor. \$35 each – 3 spaces left

You can register and pay for any of these events at the sign-up table. Contact Betsy Searight with any questions.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the ANNUAL UUCSJS NATIVE PLANT SALE

Volunteers are still needed to help with the Native Plant Sale. You can find a job that fits you – unloading plants from the truck, labelling plants, manning or womaning the sales or swap table, setup, breakdown -- whatever your availability and interests dictate. Sign-up sheets are located at the Fair Trade Table in the foyer. Questions? Talk to Jesse Connor.

# bag it

**On Thursday, May 12 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm, please attend a free public showing of the film, "Bag It," co-sponsored by Go Green Galloway and the Absegami Earth Shepherd club. The film is about the detrimental environmental effects of plastic bags and other single use disposables. A discussion about a plan to reduce, and eventually eliminate, the use of plastic bags in Galloway will follow the film.**

**Free snacks and treats will be provided, courtesy of the Absegami Earth Shepherd club! Please contact Katy Cardwell with any questions.**

I am somewhat surprised that we've reached this point: the last two months we'll be together. I feel sad about leaving this incredible place that *you have created*, with your determination, your fortitude, your care and kindness, and your goodwill. I know how hard that is to do!

My first (intern) ministry was with a tiny congregation that met in a school gym in rural Virginia. They've grown to purchase a building, but are still just at half-time ministry. While in Lexington, I worked with a group from Frankfort to try to start a congregation there. (Since it is the state capital of Kentucky, we felt strongly there should be a church!) But, to this day, the very small group have not grown, nor have they declared themselves a congregation or secured a permanent home.

So it is with wonder that I look upon your accomplishments!

The hurdles that lie ahead are not as monumental as you may think. You are well on the way to securing a minister that will stay with you for a while, help you grow enough to comfortably inhabit your space, and companion you as you articulate and achieve your next set of goals.

This month, I'll be talking with you, and inviting you to work with me to envision some of the ways that you can be ready for your next ministry. Note that on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, I'll be using food as a metaphor. I need about **ten** people to bring something they have prepared, and be ready to serve it to a small group. Let me know if you can do that!

So... for me, once I have left, I will return to Kentucky, at least for this year. I plan to take over the care of Seth, while we see if my husband's new employment works out. All three of my grown children are in Kentucky now, so that will be a first, and a joy. I have three writing projects I want to complete. I have a few health issues I would like the time and space to try and resolve without allopathic medicine. I'll be watching from afar to see how you do. My fervent hope is that you'll continue your great work with the Black Lives AC project, and extend the remarkable partnership we have begun, in imaginative and inclusive ways.

I may do another interim sometime in the future. I hope to visit you all when I come home to NJ to see family & friends. You'll be able to see whether I've gone back to saying WAH-ter and Y'all, instead of WAR-ter and youse! Meanwhile, I look forward to the coming two months.

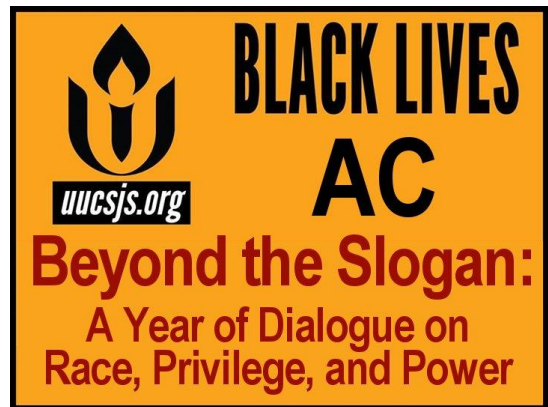
With Love,  
Cynthia

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Even though the future seems far away, it is actually beginning right now. ~Mattie Stepanek

## Ministerial Search Committee- Second Round

As by now you likely are aware, the Ministerial Search Committee has entered into the Second Round. Three candidates have come forward and the Committee is scheduling interviews with them. The Committee will keep the Congregation informed of this Second Round Process as it progresses. Should you have any questions about this process, please feel free to contact Jim Gentile.



**Black Lives Matter AC**  
**Saturday, May 21**  
**2 - 4 pm**

## The Arts

**How do the arts both express the issues and help create movements for change in Black Lives and communities of color?**

**Featuring**

**Emari DiGiorgio, Medgina St Ellen,  
Joel Dias Porter, Belinda Manning  
and visual artist Kelley Prevard**

Asbury United Methodist Church  
1213 Pacific Ave. Atlantic City, NJ  
FIND us on Facebook: Black Lives AC: Beyond the Slogan

# UU VESPERS

## NOTICE of ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UUCSJS Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

Did you ever wish there were a time of UU worship other than Sunday? Come join us for UU Vespers, Friday, May 13 at 6 pm. Barbara Miller will lead a 20 to 30-minute informal service of sharing, silent meditation, prayer and music. If you have experienced our Winter Solstice Singing Ritual, you know how incredible it is to be in our sanctuary around dusk. If you would like to have a voice in the creation of this event, please contact Barbara Miller at [uucsjsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:uucsjsmusic@gmail.com). We welcome singers, instrumentalists, children, and readers.

Following is a paraphrased description of the Vespers service at Corvallis Oregon UU by Reverend Jill McAllister. Note her connections of Vespers to nature, including the vesper sparrow and iris:

If you have one association with the word "Vespers," it may be its use as a name for the evening prayer service in Christian traditions. Or, it may be the vesper sparrow that comes to mind, a large North American sparrow with a habit of singing in the evening.



Or perhaps the vesper iris, whose flowers open in the late afternoon as day turns to evening and late summer turns to early fall. The English word "vesper" comes from the Latin word "vesper" and the Greek word "hespera," which both simply mean "evening." A Vespers service, as the word is used in many Christian traditions, is a service suited to the evening: a quiet service of prayers, songs and silence, for settling and centering at the close of a day. For those who follow a practice of praying at regular times each day (for example, the Liturgy of Hours), Vespers is the final prayer of the day.... For us, Vespers services do not follow one specific tradition. ...Some Vespers will be contemplative, and others will be more active and participatory. ... We will strive to be like the vesper sparrow, letting ourselves touch and sing about what is going on within us and around us. And like the vesper iris, we will try to open to the transitions in our lives, the smaller movements ....and the larger movements that arise.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the **UUCSJS** will be held in the **Sanctuary of the UU Center on SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016 at 11:15 am** (immediately following the Sunday service) for the purposes of approving the budget for the 2015-16 Fiscal Year; electing members of the Board of Trustees and Nominations Committee; receiving the report of the Ministerial Search Committee; and transacting such other business as may come before the congregation. *By order of the Board, Judith G. Pereira, Secretary, UUCSJS Board of Trustees*

*~ Notice will be distributed to members' email addresses of record as available, and others by regular mail, no less than thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting, as the UUCSJS Bylaws require; in other words, on or before **May 6, 2016**.*

### Three Ways to Vote:

1. **By attending the meeting in person** (you must be a member in order to vote). *(A quorum must be present in order to conduct the business of the congregation.)*
2. **By Absentee Ballot** – An Absentee Ballot will be available and must be received by the Board secretary before the start of the Annual Meeting at 11:15 a.m., June 5, 2016 in order to be counted.
3. **By Proxy** – A Proxy Letter signed by the absent member authorizes another member to vote on the absent member's behalf. Members may easily create their own proxy letter. The proxy letter names the proxy and states that said proxy is authorized to vote on behalf of the named member at the meeting named and is properly signed and dated. The proxy letter shall be presented to the Board secretary or to the meeting moderator on or before the opening of the Annual Meeting. No member may vote more than two (2) proxies per meeting. A proxy is valid for one (1) meeting only, and can be used on all matters other than the amending of bylaws.



## First Saturday Zumba Classes at UUCSJS

Join Heidi on the first Saturday of each month for an hour-long Zumba fitness class. May's Zumba class is scheduled for **Saturday, May 7 from 9-10 am at the UU Center**. The cost is \$6 per class, and the class is open to UUCSJS congregants and their friends. Wear comfortable gym clothes and sneakers, and bring a towel and water.

*This month we need to be mindful of the plant sale happening at the same time in the UU Center parking lot, so plan to arrive a few minutes early and please consider parking in the Stockton lot, leaving the closer parking spots for the plant sale patrons.*

### What is Zumba? /'zōombə/

Zumba Fitness is a Latin-inspired cardio-dance workout that uses music and choreographed steps to form a fitness party atmosphere. While many of the types of dance and music featured in the program are Latin American inspired, classes can also contain everything from jazz to African beats to country to hip-hop and pop.

### Who Should Try Zumba?

Zumba is truly for anyone who can stand up and dance. And "dance" is a very liberal term here, as no dance experience or skills are necessary. People of all ages, shapes and sizes are welcome.



*Explore... Discover... Relax... Reflect...  
Share... Play*

## Murray Grove Annual Gathering

**Two Nights!! June 10-12, 2016**

Each year members of our congregation get together for a cookout and gathering at the Murray Grove historical site and retreat center located in Lanoka Harbor, NJ (Exit 74, Garden State Parkway). This year's gathering will be Friday, June 10 to Sunday, June 12. Murray Grove is an important historical site in our Universalism heritage with a history dating back to the 1700's. We are fortunate to be located so close to this special place and this gathering is an opportunity to relax, get to know one another better, and explore our Universalist roots. Friday night there will be cookout/potluck dinner and campfire. Saturday we enjoy an indoor pot-luck dinner. Sunday will include a participant-led Children's Chapel/Sunday service. There is also a labyrinth to enjoy, a ga-ga pit and playground for the kids, and swimming is usually available.

*Everyone is invited and kids especially enjoy the event!*

Overnight accommodations are dormitory style housing with two twin beds per room and shared bathrooms. We have 30 spaces available if you want to stay overnight. The congregation will purchase food for breakfast and lunch. To offset expenses, we are requesting a donation of \$25 per adult and \$10 per child per night, or \$50 per adult, \$20 per child for the weekend (babies free). All children must be accompanied by an adult.

A donation of any amount will be gratefully accepted, and please do not let the cost keep you at home. If you can't join us for the full weekend, please consider coming up on Friday for the cookout or Saturday for a portion of the day.

During the gathering we will need help with the cookout, campfire, and with organizing activities and intergenerational games. If you have a hobby or activity to share with folks (Yoga, Zumba, birding, arts & crafts, etc) this is a great time to share it with other members of the congregation. If you are interested in attending or participating, look for more information and sign-up sheets on Sundays in May or contact Heidi Jansch at [sjsdre@gmail.com](mailto:sjsdre@gmail.com)

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Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow.  
~Mary Anne Radmacher

It was times like these when I thought my father, who hated guns and had never been to any wars, was the bravest man who ever lived. ~Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

## CALLING OUR FUTURE

**2016-2017 Stewardship Campaign**



*Do you realize how blessed you are?*

*~ Rev. Cynthia Cain from the Case Statement  
for UUCSJS Stewardship Campaign this year.*

It is indeed a treasured group of people who come together each week to share in this beloved community. And we are each blessed by the contributions of our fellow worshipers.

A heartfelt **Thank You** goes out to each of you who actively and generously participated in this **Calling Our Future** campaign. The dedicated campaign committee, the caring ambassadors and the generous donors who have been able to realize 85% of our \$165,000 goal, are to be applauded for their achievements. So far 59 contributors have pledged \$141,265 for the upcoming year. The campaign portion of **Calling Our Future** officially ends on May 1st. But your continued generosity throughout the 2016-2017 year will enable UUCSJS to maintain the building, grounds and staff and support the many programs you have chosen to guide your spiritual path.

Your active participation has been our greatest blessing and our greatest Call to the Future.

*From uuworld.org:*

**Top 10 reasons you may not feel comfortable in a Unitarian Universalist congregation.**

By Meg Riley | 2/27/2012 | Spring 2012

Find out what they are:

<http://www.uuworld.org/articles/candid-welcome-uu>

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

## Staff

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**Interim Minister**  
Rev. Cynthia Cain  
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## Board of Trustees 2015-16

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Melissa Hutchison, Jon Luoma, Judy Pereira, Charlie Roberts,  
Damon Smith, Art Wexler, Karen York

Newsletter – Mariann Maene – newsletter@uucsjs.org

**Visit us on the Web: [www.uucsjs.org](http://www.uucsjs.org)**

May 2016

**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of the South Jersey Shore  
P.O. Box 853  
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