



NEWSLETTER

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the
South Jersey Shore



Volume 19, Issue 8

August 2017

August 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>August 6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Religion, Fashion and Freedom <i>Guest speaker Sara Elnakib</i></p> <p>We will discuss the intersection of religion, fashion and freedom in the United States in a post-9/11 world through the experiences of a Muslim woman. Does fashion play a role in our perception of people? Have Muslim women experienced discrimination for being visibly Muslim? How has Muslim fashion evolved in the last 10 years as millennials have come of age? What does it feel like to be a Muslim woman living in the United States? How can we bridge the gap in understanding and become more inter-culturally competent?</p>
<p>August 13</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Jane Addams <i>Led by Maxine Blumenthal and Margaret Circle</i></p> <p>Margaret Circle will be dramatizing a radio interview with Jane Addams after she was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1931. You'll see scenes from her work against unfair child labor practices, her advances in the juvenile justice system, and the antagonism to which she was subjected in her work for peace.</p>
<p>August 20</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">“Help, Thanks, Wow!” - The Three Essential Prayers in Song <i>Lay speaker Barbara Miller</i></p> <p>The title of the book <i>Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers</i> by Anne Lamott inspired music director Barbara Miller to think about how our UU hymns express the 3 kinds of prayer: petition, gratitude, and praise.</p>
<p>August 27</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Judaism <i>Guest speaker Rabbi David M. Weis</i></p> <p>Seeing the world through Jewish eyes – How Judaism trains us to be God’s agents in creation.</p>

Welcome, Rev. Dawn!

About our guest speakers....

Sara Elnakib has worked in the area of community nutrition for over 10 years. As a founding member of the Muslims in Dietetics & Nutrition (MIDAN) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics she has a strong interest in Health and Wellness as it relates to the Muslim community. Sara joined the Rutgers Cooperative Extension in the Department of Family and Community Health Sciences as an Assistant Professor in January 2015. Prior to the faculty appointment at Rutgers University, she served not only as the Health and Nutrition Director for a Head Start Program in Montclair, New Jersey but also as an Adjunct Professor at Montclair State University. Sara is currently a doctoral candidate in the Rutgers School of Public Health. She earned her Bachelors of Science from Rutgers University in Nutritional Science and a Masters of Public Health in Education and Behavioral Science from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Rabbi David M. Weis was formally installed as religious leader of Congregation Beth Israel of Northfield, New Jersey, on October 28, 1988, and is very active within both the Jewish and general communities. Most recently, Rabbi Weis was honored by Beth Israel for his 20 years as its Spiritual Leader. He is a member of the Mainland Clergy Fellowship, the South Jersey Board of Rabbis, served on the board of the Trocki Hebrew Academy, and is very active in interfaith education and dialogue. Rabbi Weis teaches classes in Judaism at area churches and led a Seder of education at a local church for many years. In the past, Rabbi has served as the Chair of the JCRC, the Operation Exodus Campaign, and as a Vice President of the Federation of Jewish Agencies of Atlantic and Cape May Counties. He chaired a Federation Leadership Training Program, as well as the Clergy Council at Shore Memorial Hospital in Somers Point. Rabbi Weis has served on the Executive Board of the Rabbinic Cabinet of UJC, and the Leo Baeck School in Haifa. Rabbi Weis has served as the President of the South Jersey Board of Rabbis and Cantors, and is presently the SJBRC's Treasurer. He is an adjunct Professor at Stockton University and has also taught for the Brandeis Auxiliary, FELS (Friends of Encore Learning) of Stockton and many Adult Education classes at the synagogue and for the community.

Margaret Circle will resume on Thursday, September 7 at 1 pm. Enjoy your summer!

BOOK CLUB does not meet in July and August but will start again in September on the third Friday evening of the month at 7 pm in the UU Center library. We have selected an interesting variety of books for the coming year and are looking forward to many friendly discussions. It would be great for anyone to come and try on book club to see if it fits! Enjoy your summer reading. -- Barb Morell

There will be no **Journaling Workshop** in August. Stay tuned for September!

Cleaning out closets? Hang on to those **gentled-used shoes**. Bring them to UU Center and put in the lime-green bin in the foyer. Colby will give you hugs!



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FAMILY PROMISE?

Family Promise Atlantic County needs your help. Van drivers are desperately needed. This duty does not require any special license just a willingness to get our families from their overnight Church stay to the Center and back. But you don't have to do both! If you are a morning person please consider driving the Family Promise family(s) to the Day Center in Egg Harbor City. From the list of drivers it appears there is *no one from UUCSJS* driving!

Volunteers are also needed at the Day Center. This volunteer service would include spending a few day hours at the center to enable the staff to attend meetings and in-services regarding this importance organization. The center especially needs volunteer staffing between August 21 – 25 when the usual staff will be on vacation.

Both volunteer opportunities only take a few hours out of your day. For details about either service contact one of the Family Promise coordinators, Debi Dagavarian or Barbara Morell.

Thanks to all of the UUCSJS volunteers who contributed to our very successful Family Promise hosting week! Everyone on this list participated in at least one way, many giving of themselves multiple times during the week. Our Family Promise family truly enjoyed their time with us, just as we appreciated them!

Mary Lou DeMaria Berhang	Shelee McIlvaine
Nick Bonar	Theresa McReynolds <i>and grandchildren</i>
Jesse Connor	Palma and Steve Merkel
John Derrickson <i>and Max</i>	Barbara and Jack Miller
Beth DeVos	Judy Pereira
Peg Felix	Charlie Roberts
Helene and Jim Gentile	Betsy Searight
Alice Gitchell	Bud Smith
Marsha Hannah	Olivia and Damon Smith <i>and children</i>
Kathleen Hartnett	Marie and Jeff Taylor
Pam Hendrick	Stephanie Thomas <i>and children</i>
Melissa and Ron Hutchison	Kim Trotto
Janet Longo	Helen and Paul Utts
Mariann Maene	Angela Wexler
Fayo Mamme and Gavin Papparone	Karen York

Rev. Dawn Fortune



my minister@uucsjs.org email and check with the board to talk about our priorities for the year.

Welcome to New Jersey

Gentle People, just over a week ago, I arrived in Galloway with my enormous moving truck and my car on a trailer behind it. Volunteers cheerfully unloaded it all, and then provided pizza and delicious food when they were done. There were goodies left in my fridge. It was overwhelming and delightful.

I am so glad to be here. I'm still living in temporary quarters, only partially unpacked because I am waiting for the paperwork on the house I am trying to buy to go through. Why unpack entirely if I'm only going to have to move again in a few weeks? Real estate is a complex process, but I have faith that the closing will happen in short order.

Perhaps the thing that made me feel most welcome this week, though, was this note that I found beneath the windshield wiper of my car when I came out of the grocery store this week. In script penciled enthusiastically on a piece of notebook paper were the words "HEY REV DAWN – Can't wait to see UU in the coming month! BEST, The Smiths."

When I retrieved the paper from my windshield and read it, I couldn't help but smile. I know my car is pretty obvious: I have Missouri license plates that say "UU REV." Honestly, there aren't a lot of other folks who could be driving such a thing in South Jersey this summer. It was a safe bet that this was my car.

There is so much to love about the welcome I have received here. People have been warm, and still respectful of my privacy and my boundaries. Even the note left on my car acknowledges that my contract doesn't start until August. That is a sign of a healthy system at work.

Well, you've got yourself a minister, so what happens next?

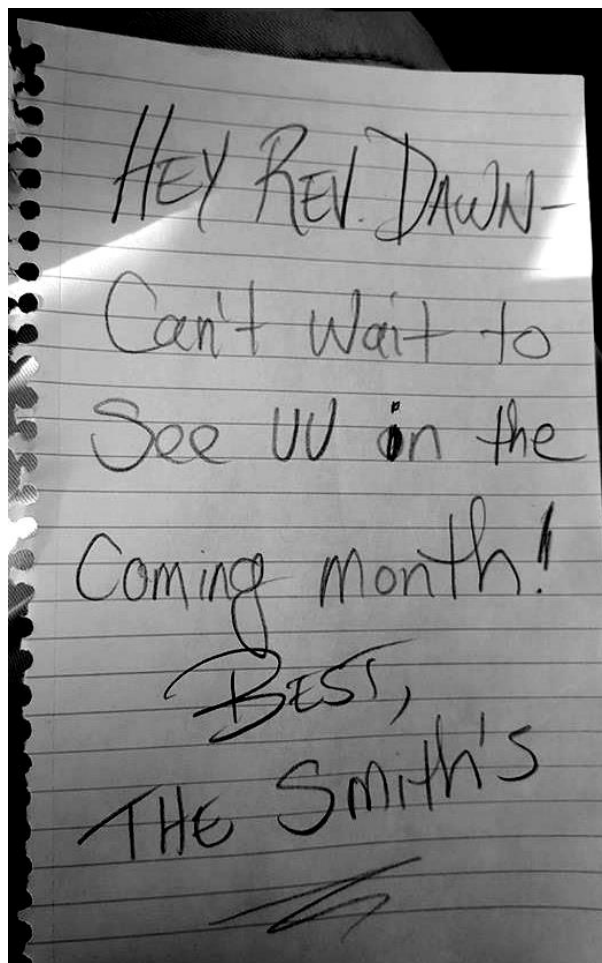
What happens next is that I will show up at the Center on August 1st to try to figure out where to keep my office stuff and which keys open which doors. I'll meet with the staff that week to talk about our plans and calendar for the coming year; I'll meet with the worship team to talk about the schedule and learn how the system runs so well. I'll figure out how to access

I hope to create a calendar that is accessible online for members who want to make an appointment to see me for a pastoral consult. The job of a minister calls me to be out of the office more than I'm in it, so scheduling meetings during regular office hours can be a real challenge. Hopefully, an online resource will make it easier for us to connect.

I've got a handful of ideas I'm thinking about for the coming year and would love to hear from you about what is important to you in the life of this congregation. Please reach out after August 1st and we'll schedule a time to get together. I look forward to settling in and getting to know folks. Thank you for making me welcome.

Blessings,

Rev. Dawn



THE THREE
ESSENTIAL PRAYERS

ANNE
LAMOTT

HELP
THANKS
WOW

Some quotes from Anne Lamott's
Help Thanks Wow: The Three Essential Prayers

"If I were going to begin practicing the presence of God for the first time today, it would help to begin by admitting the three most terrible truths of our existence: that we are so ruined, and so loved, and in charge of so little."

"... Grace can be the experience of a second wind, when even though what you want is clarity and resolution, what you get is stamina and poignancy and the strength to hang on."

"There really is only today, although luckily that is also the eternal now."

"If we stay where we are, where we're stuck, where we're comfortable and safe, we die there. We become like mushrooms, living in the dark, with poop up to our chins. If you want to know only what you already know, you're dying. You're saying: Leave me alone; I don't mind this little rathole. It's warm and dry. Really, it's fine.

When nothing new can get in, that's death. When oxygen can't find a way in, you die. But new is scary, and new can be disappointing, and confusing - we had this all figured out, and now we don't.

New is life."

"Let's not get bogged down on whom or what we pray to. Let's just say prayer is a communication from our hearts to the great mystery, or Goodness, or Howard; to the animating energy of love we are sometimes bold enough to believe in; to something unimaginably big, and not us. We could call this force Not Me, and Not Preachers Onstage with a Choir of 800. or for convenience we could just say "God"."

"Sin is not the adult bookstore on the corner. It is the hard heart, the lack of generosity, and all the isms, racism and sexism and so forth. But is there a crack where a ribbon of light might get in, might sneak past all the roadblocks and piles of stones, mental and emotional and cultural?"

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Fun in the Summer



Our summer so far has included several fun activities for our youth, and August has even more fun in store! Upcoming activities include:

August 6	Sun Prints with Karen York
August 13	Wildlife Habitat with Rosemary Goldberg and Helene Gentile
August 20	Birding with Betsy Searight
August 27	Balloon Animals with Michelle Tomko

In fellowship,
Heidi Janssch
UUCSJS Director of Religious Education

Peace Pilgrim Celebration
September 23 -24, 2017

10th Annual potluck in Peace Pilgrim Park next to Egg Harbor City Police Dept and Municipal Building and adjacent to the Egg Harbor City Historical Center.



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!

Jane Addams

September 6, 1860 – May 21, 1935

Known as the "mother" of Social Work, Jane was a pioneer American settlement activist/reformer, social worker, public philosopher, sociologist, author, and leader in women's suffrage and world peace. She co-founded, with Ellen Gates Starr, an early settlement house in the United States, Chicago's Hull House that would later become known as one of the most famous settlement houses in America.

In an era when presidents such as Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson identified themselves as reformers and social activists, Addams was one of the most prominent reformers of the Progressive Era. She helped America address and focus on issues that were of concern to mothers, such as the needs of children, local public health, and world peace. In her essay "Utilization of Women in City Government," Jane Addams noted the connection between the workings of government and the household, stating that many departments of government, such as sanitation and the schooling of children, could be traced back to traditional women's roles in the private sphere. Thus, these were matters of which women would have more knowledge than men, so women needed the vote to best voice their opinions. She said that if women were to be responsible for cleaning up their communities and making them better places to live, they needed to be able to vote to do so effectively.

Addams became a role model for middle-class women who volunteered to uplift their communities. She is known by many as the first woman public philosopher in the US. In 1889 she co-founded Hull House, and in 1920 she was a co-founder for the ACLU. In 1931 she became the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, and is recognized as the founder of the social work profession in the United States.



Throughout her life Addams had significant romantic relationships with a few women, most importantly Mary Rozet Smith and Ellen Starr. Her relationships offered her the time and energy to pursue her social work while being supported emotionally and romantically. From her exclusively romantic relationships with women, she would most likely be described as a lesbian in contemporary terms.

What is a "settlement house"?

The settlement movement was a reformist social movement, beginning in the 1880s and peaking around the 1920s in England and the US, with a goal of getting the rich and poor in society to live more closely together in an interdependent community. Its main object was the establishment of "settlement houses" in poor urban areas, in which volunteer middle-class "settlement workers" would live, hoping to share knowledge and culture with, and alleviate the poverty of, their low-income neighbors.

In the summer of 1887, Addams read in a magazine about the new idea of starting a settlement house. She decided to visit the world's first, Toynbee Hall, in London. Visiting Toynbee Hall, Addams was enchanted. She described it as "a community of University men who live there, have their recreation clubs and society all among the poor people, yet, in the same style in which they would live in their own circle. It is so free of 'professional doing good,' so unaffectedly sincere and so productive of good results in its classes and libraries seems perfectly ideal." Addams's dream of the classes mingling socially to mutual benefit, as they had in early Christian circles seemed embodied in the new type of institution.

The settlement house as Addams discovered was a space within which unexpected cultural connections could be made and where the narrow boundaries of culture, class, and education could be expanded. They doubled up as community arts centers and social service facilities. They laid the foundations for American civil society, a neutral space within which different communities and ideologies could learn from each other and seek common grounds for collective action. The role of the settlement house was an "unending effort to make culture and 'the issue of things' go together." The unending effort was the story of her own life, a struggle to reinvigorate her own culture by reconnecting with diversity and conflict of the immigrant communities in America's cities and with the necessities of social reform.

In 1889 Addams started her dream settlement house, Hull House. It was a center for research, empirical analysis, study, and debate, as well as a pragmatic center for living in and establishing good relations with the neighborhood. Residents of Hull-house conducted investigations on housing, midwifery, fatigue, tuberculosis, typhoid, garbage collection, cocaine, and truancy. Its facilities included a night school for adults, clubs for older children, a public kitchen, an art gallery, a gym, a girls' club, a bathhouse, a book bindery, a music school, a drama group and a theater, apartments, a library, meeting rooms for discussion, clubs, an employment bureau, and a lunchroom. Her adult night school was a forerunner of the continuing education classes offered by many universities today. In addition to making available social services and cultural events for the largely immigrant population of the neighborhood, Hull House afforded an opportunity for young social workers to acquire training. Eventually, Hull House became a 13-building settlement complex, which included a playground and a summer camp.

From https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jane_Addams

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

Staff

Minister

Rev. Dawn Fortune (pronoun *they*)
minister@uucsjs.org

Music Director

Barbara Miller
uucsjsmusic@gmail.com

Associate Credentialed Director of Religious Education

Heidi Jansch
sjsdre@gmail.com

Office Assistant

Matthew Honig
uucsjsadmin@gmail.com

Bookkeeper

Kathleen Hartnett
uucsjs.bookkeeper@gmail.com



**P.O. Box 853
Pomona, NJ 08240
(609) 965-9400**

Board of Trustees 2017-18

Jim Gentile, Marsha Hannah Melissa Hutchison,
Charlie Roberts, Jessica Dunn Safonof,
Damon Smith, Karen York

Newsletter – Mariann Maene – newsletter@uucsjs.org

Visit us on the Web: www.uucsjs.org

August 2017

**Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of the South Jersey Shore
P.O. Box 853
Pomona, NJ 08240**

