



NEWSLETTER



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the
South Jersey Shore

Volume 19, Issue 9

September 2017

September 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>September 3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Labor Day <i>Rev. Dawn Fortune</i></p> <p>Labor Day has been an official Federal holiday since 1894. It honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, laws, and well-being of the country. Come hear what our new minister has to say about it.</p>
<p>September 10</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Water Communion <i>Rev. Dawn Fortune</i></p> <p>The life-sustaining symbolism of water is universal. Throughout the year, members of many UU congregations, like ours, collect small amounts of water that have meaning for them, either from a special location (e.g., the family home, an ocean or river, memento of a trip). At the service, the samples of water are placed in a single bowl so they can merge. Join us for this annual ritual of ingathering and hope.</p>
<p>September 17 Congregational Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Racial Justice <i>Rev. Dawn Fortune</i></p> <p>UUCSJS has a Racial Justice Task Force which instituted a year-long series of workshops held last year at Asbury Methodist in Atlantic City, strengthened our bonds with other racial justice organizations in the area, and held a well-attended rally just a few weeks ago. How can we continue on the path of learning about and fighting for racial justice?</p>
<p>September 24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">“I Know What You Did Last Summer” <i>Lay speaker Richard Grzywinski</i></p> <p>No, this is not about that blockbuster 1997 horror film of the same name. Our summer sermons program from July 2 to August 27, 2017 presented of a diverse mix of nine interfaith topics ranging from humanistic views of the universe through Judaism. So while many of you were off dipping your toes in the surf, or hiking the Appalachian Trail, we stalwart members were inspired by speakers mostly from outside the congregation. What did we learn, how were we inspired, and how does it all fit together? Come and find out.</p>

Special Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, September 17, 2017
at 11:30 am**

The purpose of the meeting shall be for the establishment of a Committee on Ministry (COM). We will vote on 4 members to serve.

*What exactly is a Committee on Ministry?
See Page 3 for more information about COMs.*

Peace Pilgrim Celebration September 23 -24, 2017

From *The Current*:

www.shorenewstoday.com/galloway_township/open-mic-fosters-peace-in-ehc-and-around-the-world/article_6508abb5-e896-5e4b-8a96-4ed47d664ecd.html

The 10th annual Peace Pilgrim Celebration being held Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 23-24 at Peace Pilgrim Park, 500-block of London Ave., features an open-mic for peace. Musicians are invited to share their talents noon-2 p.m. during Saturday's "Global Feast for Peace."

The celebration includes two days of reflection on the life and work of Peace Pilgrim, an American sage who walked across the continent seven times during her 28-year pilgrimage for peace. Her mission lives on in her words: "Overcome evil with good, and falsehood with truth and hatred with love."

The celebration is going global this year by joining people around the world commemorating the United Nations' International Day of Peace held each year on September 21.



This year's Peace Pilgrim Celebration includes a mala yoga practice, 2-mile intergenerational walk, heartfulness meditation, potluck picnic and open mic, and unifying drum circle on Saturday, and an interfaith spiritual service on Sunday.

Participants are encouraged to bring a covered vegetarian or vegan dish to share during the picnic. Activities during the global feast for peace include live music, rock painting, origami peace dove making, hand printing and more. Various non-profit organizations will help raise awareness about social issues affecting the global community.

For times of each event or to pre-register for the walk see www.peacepilgrim100.com. To sing or play an instrument during the picnic, email info@peacepilgrim100.com.

Walkers: Commemorative T-shirts designed by students at Cedar Creek High School will be available to the first 100 walkers with a donation of \$5 or more. Registration opens at 8:30 am at the park.

Peace is a journey of a thousand miles and it must be taken one step at a time.
~ Lyndon B. Johnson

If you want peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.
~ Desmond Tutu

Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions,
slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures.
~ John F. Kennedy

Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war
than we know about peace, more about killing than we know about living.
~ Omar N. Bradley

That idea of peace and love toward humanity shouldn't be nationalistic or denominational.
It should be a chief concern for all mankind.
~ Mos Def

Peace is not absence of conflict, it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means.
~ Ronald Reagan

You can't separate peace from freedom because no one can be at peace
unless he has his freedom.
~ Malcolm X



What's happening with Family Promise?

Upcoming Fund Raiser

FIVE GUYS

Monday, August 28

Five Guys Burger and Fries - 720 White Horse Pike, Absecon - August 28 between 5-8 pm.

10% of your purchase will be donated to Family Promise! You must present the flyer which is available at social justice table.

Another way to support FPAC

We are now selling sets of 10 beautiful notecards to benefit Family Promise. Each set includes photographs of waterscapes and birds taken by Lynn Wood along the The Great Egg Harbor River and at The Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge. Cards are blank inside and can be used for most any occasion. Consider them for gifts. The cost is \$15.00 per package. This is a \$3,000.00 fund raising project that we have initiated, with other congregations helping. Cards will be available at the Social Justice Table during Coffee Hour. Hallmark doesn't have anything on us!!

Margaret Circle will begin again on Thursday, September 7 at 1 pm in the UU Center Library. Join us for a time of Joys and Concerns followed by refreshments courtesy of newest member Mary Lou DeMaria-Berhang. After our social time we will have a guided discussion with co-founder Kathryn Kelley. All the women of the UUCSJS congregation or loyal friends are invited to attend.

GOOD NEWS !!!!! Book Club will be meeting again starting Friday, September 15 at 7 pm in the UU Center library. We will be discussing *THE LIFE & ADVENTURE OF JACK ENGLE* by Walt Whitman. Described as a "fun, rollicking, creative, twisty bizarre little book," *Jack Engle* is a classic rags-to-riches orphan's story about a corrupt lawyer who tries to trick his ward out of her inheritance. Written in 1852, this novel was discovered by Zachary Turpin in 2016. All are welcome to join us!!!!

Just to give a preview of coming book club choices: **OCTOBER** is *The Immortal Irishman* by Timothy Egan and **NOVEMBER** is *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult. Complete list and description of Book Club selections are available on the Social Justice table. For questions contact Barb Morell.

What is a COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY?

The following description is taken from www.uua.org/leadership/governance/bylaws/structure/committees/ministry

Many congregations have a committee to assist and work with the professional minister or ministers.

An older model is the **Ministerial Relations Committee**, which tends to be an advocate for, and a support and guidance group to, the minister or ministers. The focus of these groups generally is limited to professional ministers, rather than to the overall state of the congregation's ministry. In unhealthy congregations, this model can lead to triangulation.

A newer model is the **Committee on Ministry (CoM)**, which focuses on all aspects of the congregation's ministry, including professional leadership, music, social justice, religious education, pastoral care, and so on. This model helps the congregation make sure that its ministries are serving its mission and vision.

In practice, congregations have used the names interchangeably, so some congregations have creatively tweaked the name (e.g. Committee on Shared Ministries) to distinguish the difference.

An excellent description of the Committee on Ministry Model is described in Robert Latham's book *Moving on from Church Folly Lane: The Pastoral to Program Shift*.

An outline of Latham's Committee on Ministry model here (PDF - 22 pages): www.uua.org/documents/lathamrobert/ministry_committee_model.pdf.

Special thanks from the minister

I am so grateful for the efforts of the Racial Justice Task Force in instigating and coordinating our Rally to Resist White Supremacy on Wednesday, August 16, as a response to the Charlottesville VA events of the prior weekend. A head count at the event indicated that we had some **217 people** in attendance, which is probably more than the fire marshal would be happy about, but which makes me enormously pleased.

We had a host of speakers from a variety of backgrounds and traditions, and all were greeted warmly and with enthusiasm. The offertory brought in **\$950** that will be donated to SafetyPinBox.com to be used to help support women of color in real and tangible ways that they prioritize.

The **Racial Justice Task Force** is to credit with leading the organizing for this incredible event. Yes, I was there as the minister, and yes, I helped, but truly this was an event led by the members of the congregation, and UUCSJS has every reason to be proud of the effort.

Blessings, Dawn

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Back to School!

The children were treated to a variety of fun activities each Sunday throughout the summer months. Many thanks to those volunteers who shared their Sunday with the youth!

We will begin the RE school year on September 17. Our classes this year will include *Spiritplay* for Pre-K-1st graders, *Experiences with the Web of Life* for our 2nd - 6th graders and *You the Digital Creator* for 7th grade and above.

SpiritPlay is a storytelling religious education program. During each class, the storyteller relates a story while presenting visual cues (small objects or pictures) to the children as a way to help them remember the story. Included are legends from many different faith traditions, creative expressions of our Unitarian Universalist principles (introduced as "promises") and tales of our UU ancestors.

Experiences with the Web of Life enables students to develop an awareness of and respect for the interdependence of living things. Activities are geared toward encouraging children's natural sense of wonder and awe, gaining an awareness of and comfort with change and growth as characteristics of living things (including birth and death), and developing a desire to protect the environment.

You the Digital Creator - The digital revolution brings new creative power that youth use to shape their future lives. This program helps them understand and apply their new power in positive ways with lessons exploring topics such as "Me, My Selfie and I," "Digital Social Justice," and "Cyber Arts."

Volunteering as a teacher's assistant in Children's RE can be a unique education and spiritual experience for adults. If you would like to volunteer one Sunday, contact Heidi at sjsdre@gmail.com.

In fellowship,
Heidi Janssch
UUCSJS Director of Religious Education

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY NOT JUST FOR THE MINISTER

The Committee on Ministry may be the most misunderstood committee that a congregation has. Is it an advocate for the minister -- a kind of ministerial cheerleading squad? Or does it represent the congregation's interests? Beyond that, does it just respond to crises or is it supposed to meet regularly? Is it responsible only for the ministry provided by the called ministers or for the whole ministry of the congregation? What's the difference between it and a Ministerial Relations Committee?

Read more here:
<http://www.uua.org/interconnections/44219.shtml>

Now is the Time for Universal Love!

Love yourself, Love the Earth, Love your Neighbor

MURRAY GROVE Homecoming 2017

Friday and Saturday, September 29 - 30

A weekend full of exciting offerings:

Friday night cocktail and hors d'œuvres party with live music and UU minister and former UUA presidential candidate Rev. Alison Miller.

Saturday: continental breakfast, workshops, tours of our mission and an afternoon festival.

Sunday: continental breakfast and UUOCC Sunday Service

Saturday afternoon's free community festival includes:

- Keynote inspirational speaker and woman of transgender experience Julia Scotti!
- Poetry tent
- Craft beer tent, food concession
- Live music/Performances
- Kid's Zone/Camping in the Grove Reunion
- Environmental and social justice organizations
- Spiritual and environmental workshops
- Local artists and vendors with handcrafted wares

A variety of overnight packages are available, including a limited number of camping opportunities. Overnight accommodations are limited!

Register here: www.eventbrite.com/e/now-is-the-time-for-universal-love-tickets-36613028554

Galloway Green Market

Sundays 10 am - 1 pm
from August 13 -
October 15



Galloway's Green Team has been working hard to bring a farmer's market to Galloway and this Sunday marks the grand opening. It will run on Sundays from 10 am-1 pm and is located in the Main Municipal Complex at 300 East Jimmie Leeds Road (rain or shine). Honey, craft coffee, flowers, sweet corn, kid's nature crafts, and much more. Sounds like a good place to check out after service on Sundays. *Want more info? You'll find postcards with a partial list of vendors on the Fair Trade Table.*



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!

**Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of the South Jersey Shore
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