



NEWSLETTER



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the
South Jersey Shore

Volume 20, Issue 5

May 2018

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.

May 6	Ain't That Good News <i>Guest minister Rev. Amy Petrie Shaw</i> Unitarian Universalism has a message of good news for the world, and it is too big not to share. Come and join Rev. Amy Shaw as we explore hope and agency in troubled times, and our role in spreading the Word.
May 13	It's Complicated... Part 1 <i>Rev. Dawn Fortune</i> Mother's Day is complex, sometimes chaotic, or fraught. On this day we will celebrate all of the chaos and glory of spring with our annual flower communion, as well as welcoming new members into our congregation and offering a child dedication. We will consider motherhood, babies, and what it means to belong to a community of shared spiritual growth. Mother's Day, like life, is indeed complicated!
May 20 Annual Congregational Meeting	The DeMasi Brothers <i>Guest musicians Joseph and John DeMasi</i> Music has always been an important part in movements of social change. Join award winning twin brothers and UU musicians/singer/songwriter/humorists Joseph and John DeMasi as they present songs that will inspire, motivate, enlighten and touch on issues that are relevant today.
May 27	Honor, Sacrifice, and Peace <i>Rev. Dawn Fortune</i> Memorial Day was originally called "Decoration Day," a tradition begun to honor soldiers killed during the American Civil War. Since that time, it has become a day set aside to honor all United States soldiers killed in battle. As people committed to peace, how do we honor those who went to war and never came back? We will explore notions of sacrifice, honor, and integrity as we consider this holiday.

**Your Voice
Counts!**

Annual Meeting
Sunday, May 20, 2018
After the service

About our guest speakers...

Reverend Amy Petrie Shaw brings a vibrant voice and dynamic presence to her role as a Unitarian Universalist minister.

A Northern Kentucky University graduate in English, with a minor in Women's Studies and an Area of Concentration in Psychology, Amy earned her M.Div. from Meadville Lombard Theological School in May of 2013, and was the winner of the 2013 Roberta Nelson Prize in Religious Education.

Amy currently serves as the full time settled minister for Lake Country Unitarian Universalist Church in Hartland, Wisconsin. She and her husband, Brian, live in Hartland, Wisconsin, sharing a house with their cats, Dippy, Nike, and Marshmallow. They love the sense of community and warmth they have found there.

Amy came to ministry after a career as a college professor and nurse executive, specializing in facility restructuring and crisis management. She is a trained and gifted preacher, with a special skill for working with children and young adults.

In her spare time, Amy writes, and creates mixed-media art which she shows regionally and nationally. Her art work has been recognized nationally and internationally. She is the author of the laugh-out-loud funny book of essays, *The Tao of the Dippy Cat*, and the science fiction/fantasy novel, *Gloriana*. Amy is fascinated by computers and is devoted to digital literacy.

Amy is Middle-Eastern and white, and was adopted as a child and raised by a white family. She grew up with a sister and two cousins, and her parents currently are raising her nieces who are 16 and 18.

Amy and Brian have two grown children and three grandchildren, all of whom live near London, England.

Margaret Circle will be held on Thursday, May 3 at 1 pm in the UU Center library. We will have a longer than usual business meeting followed by Joys and Concerns. Peg Gillies will surprise us with refreshment. If time allows, Debbi Dagavarian will lead us in an active discussion that will help us to learn even more about one another. All women members and friends are welcome to join us.

BOOK CLUB will be meeting Friday, May 18 at 7 pm in the UU Center library. Our selection for May is *FAITHFUL* by Alice Hoffman. Growing up on Long Island, Shelby Richmond is an ordinary girl until one night an extraordinary tragedy changes her fate. Her best friend's future is destroyed in an accident, while Shelby walks away with the burden of guilt. With beautifully crafted prose, Alice Hoffman spins hope from heartbreak in this profoundly moving novel. Marsha Hannah will be leading the discussion. All are welcome to attend.

At our June meeting we will be selecting books for the coming year so it is time to start thinking about your choices!! Contact Barb Morell for more information.



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FAMILY PROMISE?

Our next hosting week is June 10-17, 2018.

The UUCSJS Family Promise Team would like to meet with you on Sunday, May 6 after the service at 11:30 am to discuss how we can continue to support this important organization. There are many things we can be doing between our hosting weeks. Also, we can answer questions you may have about Family Promise of Atlantic County. Please come!

~ *Barbara Morell and Debbi Dagavarian, co-chairs*

BEEF, BREWS, and BRAINS

At JD's Pub & Grille, Smithville

Friday, May 18

7 - 9 pm

\$20 advance, \$25 at the door

Trivia and prizes!!!

BUY TICKETS FROM SHELEE McILVAINE

or call Family Promise at 609.798.0066

email: familypromiseatlanticcounty@gmail.com



Please remember to drop your unwanted, unused, gently worn foot wear into the lime green bin under the coat rack on Sundays **any time of the year.**

Less fortunate folks can sure use them!!! **We can all pitch in to FEED THE FOOT BIN.**

Rev. Dawn Fortune
609.289.5782

Onward and Upward!

As I write this, I am still smiling at the spectacular results of this year's stewardship campaign. I am so proud of this congregation! When Treasurer Karen York and I created the pledge goal, we both knew it would be a stretch goal, and I knew that last year's pledges fell a little short of the goal that had been set then. Setting this year's goal beyond last year's number was a significant challenge, we knew, but I had faith that the members of this congregation would be up to that challenge.

What a fantastic night it was at the fellowship dinner when we surpassed the pledge goal! The UU Congregation of the South Jersey Shore has every reason to be proud of that accomplishment!

With matters of pledging over, we now set about the business of spending that money through the budget process. The finance team, the board of trustees, and I all have input into the final version of the budget, and there is much conversation about how our budget upholds our values. We must consider our principles when establishing salary levels for staff – does this compensation package represent our commitment to justice and equity in our human relations? Are we being good stewards of our resources (building, grounds, people, etc.)?

You will be asked to vote on the budget at this year's annual meeting later this month. There will be other items that need your attention as well, such as the election of new board members and the like. With the amount of enthusiastic response that we had to the stewardship campaign, I have no doubt that the annual meeting will be similarly successful.

As I wrap up my first year as your first-ever called minister, I want to tell you that this year continues to be an experience of joyous learning and exploration. There are things and systems at play in the UUCSJS that are universal realities at congregations everywhere, and there are things that are unique to this place. Comparing congregations is not productive or healthy, I am told, but I have to say that this has been a truly enjoyable year and I am so glad to be here.

Blessings,
Rev. Dawn

Rev. Dawn's Twitter handle is
@queerpreacher
You can tweet about UUCSJS using
the hashtag **#uucsjs**



Search for Director of Religious Education
Position start: July 1, 2018
Salaried, Part-time: 15 Hours per Week

Role and responsibilities

Directs and leads the religious education programs including leading, inspiring, planning and administering a comprehensive program that nurtures the spiritual and religious growth of children and youth throughout the regular program year.

Qualifications and education requirements

Bachelor's degree or equivalent combination of education and experience

UUA credentialed or willingness to get credentialed through the UUA

NOTICE of ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UUCSJS SUNDAY, May 20, 2018 at 11:15 a.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL MEETING of the UUCSJS will be held in the Sanctuary of the UU Center on SUNDAY, May 20, 2018 at 11:15 a.m. (immediately following the Sunday service) for the purposes of approving the budget for the 2018-19 Fiscal Year; electing members of the Board of Trustees and Nominations Committee; revisiting our commitment to Family Promise; revisiting our commitment to and activities related to Black Lives Matter and the Racial Justice Task Force in light of the October 2016 directive of the Congregation for the Task Force to lead the Congregation into direct services; approve amendment to the bylaws to change the number of members serving on the Committee on Ministry; approve amendment to the By-Laws to provide for Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Trustees; approve amendment to Minister contract; and transacting such other business as may come before the congregation.

COME! BE A FLOWER CHILD, AGAIN!

As Margaret is stepping back from being the constant Chalice Table dresser, the altar area set up is being maintained by Colby who is asking for flowers or an arrangement be delivered each Sunday morning!

At the rear of the sanctuary is a calendar book for Sunday signups where **you can volunteer** to bring your garden's beauties to our Chalice Table, vase'd or not, then give them away or take them home to your table! **BE A FLOWER-POWERED CHILD AGAIN!!!!**

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



Murray Grove Annual Gathering

June 8-10, 2018

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 evening, June 8 to Sunday, June 10.

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. (Even if the weather and water is still too chilly for us grownups, the kids always have a blast!)

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

Overnight accommodations are dormitory style housing with two twin beds per room and shared bathrooms. 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 under 2 are 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 (a \$10 per-person day-fee is gratefully accepted.)

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, birding, arts & crafts, etc) this is a great time to share it with the kids and 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 Jannsch at sjsdre@gmail.com Sign up early and please hand in your donations by May 27.

Helene Young, 103, hosts 11th annual Potluck for Peace

Sunday, June 10, 2018, 2 pm

EGG HARBOR CITY – The tradition of celebrating the life and work of Peace Pilgrim, an American sage who walked her talk, will be held **2 p.m. Sunday, June 10, 2018 at the home of Nanette Galloway, 349 Buffalo Ave., Egg Harbor City**. The event, which is hosted by Peace Pilgrim's sister, Helene Young, 103, is an opportunity for people to meet up with old friends and make some new ones and share Peace Pilgrim's message.

Peace Pilgrim, born Mildred Lisette Norman 1908 in Egg Harbor City, walked dusty roads and city streets for more than 27 years spreading her simple but profound message of peace: "Overcome evil with good, and falsehood with truth and hatred with love." A penniless pilgrim, she vowed to remain a wanderer until mankind learned the way of peace.

Bring a vegetarian or vegan dish to share, friends, and an acoustical instrument or your voice for an old fashioned sing-along.

For directions or to RSVP, email barbreynolds123@gmail.com.

More than the Sum of our Parts

2018-2019 Annual Stewardship campaign

Karen York, Treasurer UUCSJS



Goal exceeded!

Thanks to everyone for their voluntary generosity.

For the first time in UUCSJS's history, we **exceeded our goal**.

The stewardship campaign raised **\$182,285** in financial commitments from **65** pledging families to fund our programs for the next fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018.

Karen York, Treasurer UUCSJS



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

Staff

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Board of Trustees 2017-18

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Charlie Roberts, Jessica Dunn Safonof,
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May 2018

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