

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ROCKLAND

130 Concklin Road, Pomona, NY 10970

Office (845) 354-1789,

www.uurocklandny.org

e-mail: administrator@uurocklandny.org

Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows.

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

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THE ROCKLAND UNITARIAN

April 1, 2016

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Editor: Mary Holdampf

April 3, 10:30 a.m. Rev. Ellen Dionna

**What Are We Seeking When We Don't
Know What We're Seeking?**

Of quests and quarks, poems and pilgrimages and the intrinsic human need for making meaning, this is the spiritual journey.

Coordinator: Tricia Larkin

April 17, 10:30 a.m. Evan Pritchard

Turnaround Sunday

- UU Book Club – Michelle Solomon will lead a discussion of Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, the UUA Common Read for 2015-16. Read the book before the class, or you can drop by to see what you have missed at this sessions promoted by the Social Justice Committee.
- Singalong with George – Join George Rigney and his special guest stars, as they lead us in singing some songs with UU themes. Musical ability not required, but enthusiasm is a must.
- Islamaphobia -- What's Going On? -- Luis Torres will lead a discussion on Islam's place in American society. Join this timely conversation.

Coordinators: Jane Cowan/Terri Pahucki

April 10, 10:30 a.m. Mike Steger

**Celebrating Our UU Values
Through Poetry**

Join us as we celebrate our Unitarian Universalist values through poetry. Congregants and visitors are invited to present poems original (or non-original) poems of their choosing

Coordinator: Luis Torres

April 24, 10:30 a.m. To be announced

Please go to our website for updated info.

www.uurocklandny.org

**MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
APRIL 17, 6 PM**

RE NEWS

Welcome to our new nursery assistant, Alexis Williams! Alexis is a first year nursing student at Dominican College, and I am glad to have her enthusiastic and friendly presence with us on Sunday mornings to help with our babies, toddlers, and preschoolers.

This month we will be honoring the interdependent web of life with a few special events. On Saturday April 9th, all ages are welcome to join for a family movie night, from 5 to 7 PM. We will be showing *The Lorax*, the 2012 animated film based on Dr. Seuss' famous book about protecting the trees. Then on Sunday, April 17th, we will be celebrating Turnaround Sunday, with special guest Evan Pritchard leading the children in a nature-based program. Evan is an Algonquin scholar who interweaves music, story, and myth from the Native American tradition throughout his presentations and workshops. Last, on Saturday, April 23rd, we are planning a community service day for youth, including community gardening at the Martin Luther King Multipurpose Center. Religious education is a process of both reflection and action, and I am excited to deepen our learning as we work to honor and protect our earth together both within and beyond our doors.

The past two months I have attended both senior and junior high youth cons. These are social conferences of about 100 youth from throughout the UU Metro NY District. Our youth who have attended have wonderful things to say about their experiences at the cons. The cons create a safe and respectful environment for them to express and discover themselves and form intentional community; it is my hope that we can create this same environment here at UUCR for our youth to grow as leaders.

April Calendar

- 3 Children's Worship Service
Re classes
- 10 RE classes
- 17 Turnaround Sunday
- 24 RE classes

Terri Pahucki

dre@uurocklandny.org



We invite you to read original or notable poetry at our annual poetry service on April 17th. If you would like to participate in the service, please contact Mike Steger (msteger@steger-law.com)



Notice, there are NO more leaks...We have a new water heater, replacing the 21 year old one we had been nursing along.

Do remember that March ends our 3rd fiscal quarter, so please update pledges. I will try to get out statements for outstanding balances, but I am quite busy during this tax season.

Barbara Francis

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS



- **UU District of Metro NY Annual Meeting**
 - May 6-7, 2016
 - Hyatt Morristown, Morristown NJ

<http://www.uua.org/central-east/events/region/mny-annual-meeting>

There are several of us already planning to go, and it would be great to have more. The theme this year is "Better Together".

Featuring Keynote Speaker will be Taquiena Boston, Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Director of Multicultural Growth and Witness. Musical Guests will be Brother Sun.

If you are interested in going and are interested in carpooling or room sharing, reach out to Hillary Torres, and she will try to match up people with similar arrangement interests.

Regionalization

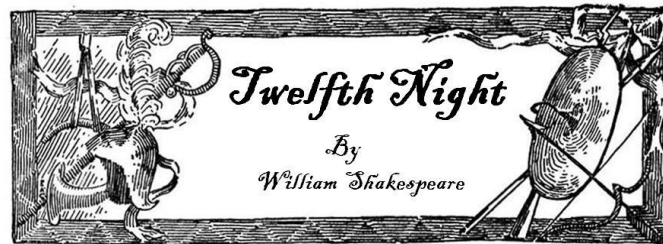
We have been moving through the process of regionalization, whether you realize it or not, for the last few years. The UUA Congregations in our section of the country are moving toward becoming one Central East Region and away from being part of the 4 component districts, including Metro NY.

The final step of this transition is the vote at the annual meeting to dissolve our district as it stands, in favor of the region. To find out more online, check out a blog on the topic: <http://www.cerguua.org/cergingforward/>

As well, there will be information about the change posted at the back of the worship room between now and the annual meeting, and there will be a time for viewing a series of short videos from the CER YouTube Channel after the service on 5/1. Feel free to check it out on your own by searching "Central East Region UUA" on YouTube; click on Playlists, and select "Learn About CERG Regionalization", or join us for food and some learning about the changes that have been taking place and the effect of the upcoming vote.

Hillary Torres

SHAKESPEARE PLAY READING CIRCLE



Join our free monthly Shakespeare play readings with Dan Hanchrow, Director with Children's Shakespeare Theatre and The Strange Bedfellows. Come out and speak the words of the Bard with good company in a relaxed and non-judgmental group. On April 16 we will enjoy the delightful comedy *Twelfth Night*. Bring a nosh to share and maybe a libation. We will get together at 6:30 at UUCR, talk a little about the play, and then dive in!

Please sign up by emailing

Dan at danbhan@gmail.com by 4/9 for Twelfth Night. Future readings will be announced in April.

All are welcome!

APRIL GREETERS

- 3: Denise Waithe and Emily Kratzer
- 10: Roberta Chang and Sally Andriette
- 17: Susan Brunelli and Alex Finger
- 24: Seamus Gallaher and Edward Donnelly

THANK YOU, MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



FOR HOSTING APRIL COFFEE HOUR

APRIL SCHEDULE

- ❖ April 9, 10:30 am:
 - Yoga with Jane
- ❖ April 9, 5 pm:
 - Family Movie Night
- ❖ April 10, noon:
 - Memorial Garden Meeting
- ❖ April 16, 6:30 pm:
 - Shakespeare Reading
with Dan Hanchrow – all welcome
- ❖ April 17, noon:
 - BOT Meeting
- ❖ April 20, 21, 22, 8 pm – 8 am
 - Helping Hands Overnight Shelter
- ❖ April 23, 10:30 am:
 - Yoga with Jane

*Al-anon meets Mondays at 9:30 am
and Thursdays at 7:30 pm*



The Members of UUCR extend their deep sympathy to the members of Mary Brown's family
Mary, our oldest member, died on March 12th.
May she rest in peace.



UU District of Metro NY Annual Meeting
May 6-7, 2016
Hyatt Morristown, Morristown NJ
<http://www.uua.org/central-east/events/region/mny-annual-meeting>

ALLAN AVERY EXHIBITION

The Allan Avery Exhibition was a huge success! Many from the UUCR visited the Ridgewood Art Gallery for the opening reception at which they were able to meet with members of the Avery family. Many formerly unseen paintings were displayed and enjoyed by many. Wine and appetizers added to the festivity.



HAPPY SPRING

"And Spring arose on the garden fair,
Like the Spirit of Love felt
everywhere;
And each flower and herb on Earth's
dark breast
rose from the dreams of its wintry
rest."

~ Percy Bysshe Shelley, *The Sensitive Plant*

