

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ROCKLAND

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THE ROCKLAND UNITARIAN

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Editor: Mary Holdampf

**June 5, 10:30 a.m. Rev. Jennifer Pader
Rupert's Tail**

It's not easy to live as honorably as we would like to. We resist telling others about our personal mistakes because we are embarrassed or ashamed of them. Join the dialogue as we explore how we make and break promises to ourselves. We'll take a closer look at managing our own expectations, how to live within our means, set appropriate (not aspirational) goals and choose humility rather than having it imposed upon us. Most of all, how do we absorb the hard lesson that life gives us no guarantees?

Coordinator: Luis Torres

**June 12, 10:30 a.m. Terri Pahucki
Religious Education
and Flower Communion Sunday**

Join the religious education (RE) program in an end of class year worship and celebration. In this service, we will celebrate our faith development from this past year and recognize those who have worked hard to support our children and youth. Our service will also include the Annual Flower Communion. Please bring a flower or two to share!

Coordinator: Laurie Young

**June 19, 10:30 a.m. Art Aldrich
Our Hymnal, Unsung.. and Unstrung**

Unitarians are often accused of scanning ahead to read the words before singing a hymn. Actually, changing the words of hymns has been a UU tradition for centuries as we broke with more orthodox and dogmatic theologies to forge our own worship. This service will take an irreverent look at some old familiar hymns, with new words fitted. What, us irreverent? Come prepared to sing!

Coordinators: Tricia Larkin & Laurie Young

**June 26, 10:30 a.m. Michael Penque
Living an Ethical Life,
What the Buddha really meant.**

Living an ethical life—a life of selflessness rather than unbridled egoism—is the key to true happiness and the foundation for creating a better world. To be a good person, one must acknowledge past actions, perceive current situations, and begin sowing the seeds for future change. In this service we will discuss the importance of bringing intention to thought and action.

Coordinator: Jane Cowan

RE NEWS

On June 12th we will be celebrating Religious Education Sunday. This is a time to honor and recognize our learning from this past year and the people who have helped to make it happen. It is also a time to reflect on what Religious Education means to all of us as a multi-generational community. We will also be including a Flower Communion as part of our service; the flowers that we bless together represent beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. These are gifts that we cultivate in one another through religious education, and they are gifts that we receive from the participation and presence of our children and youth in congregational life. A church without these gifts would be quite bare, indeed.

Let us work together to grow these gifts! We are now recruiting teachers and assistants for the Fall RE Program. Please consider your commitment to the program. Based on current enrollment, we will be continuing with the same age groups for next year. We are considering the UU Identity Curriculum, *Spirit of Adventure*, for our K-5th grade class and *Neighboring Faiths* for 6th- 9th graders. We are looking at opportunities for small group ministry, worship, social justice, and leadership development for growing our ministry with youth. Signup sheets for next year's RE program will be available on June 12th, or please contact me to let me know your interest.

Starting June 19th, summer services will begin. During the summer, children are encouraged to bring a book, game or quiet activity to keep them busy during services. Anna will be in the nursery. We will also need a second person each week to help supervise the children. Please add your name to the signup sheet on the nursery door. Volunteers may offer a special activity in the summer, or assist with supervised play.

JUNE RE SCHEDULE

June 5 Children's Worship Service, RE Classes
12 RE Sunday
19 Summer schedule begins
RE classes resume in September
Terri Pahucki, dre@uurocklandny.org
Director of Religious Education

July Newsletter Deadline
June 19, 6 pm

TREASURER'S NEWS

The Worship side windows are on order thanks to the very generous anonymous donation from one of our pledging units. They should be installed by the end of July. June 30, 2016, is the end of our fiscal year. If you do not have your pledge up-to-date, please try to get it in. If you need information on your current balance, contact me at bebressor@gmail.com or 845-429-0506.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our pianist and violinist Alice Tao!! A student at Tappan Zee High School, she was honored for excellence in Engineering/ Architecture/ Math/ Science during the 51st Carroll F. Johnson Scholastic Achievement Dinner in Tarrytown. Valedictorians and salutatorians were honored by the Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents, LoHud staffer Gary Stern reported on his Facebook page.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Come one, come all
to the annual picnic at the UUCR!

Where: at the UUCR

When: June 12 after the RE Appreciation service

More details to follow

Why: Fun!

SUMMER SOLSTICE

The Summer Solstice event will take place on June 18th from 8 to 10 pm. We will have potluck snacks, a youth-led service, meditation, water communion, and a bonfire. This event is open to the public. Please bring as you are willing and able water from a place meaningful to you, a snack to share, an outdoor folding chair, and a friend! Youth are especially encouraged to attend. Jane Cowan

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

June Greeters

June 5 - Denise Waithe & Emily Kratzer
June 12 - Roberta Chang & Sally Andriette
June 19 - Susan Brunelli & Alex Finger
June 26 - Seamus Gallagher & Edward Donnelly

Many thanks to Geraldine Shaw who is resigning as Membership Chair. She has continued to revitalize the committee during her tenure and now leaves the chair in the capable hands of Hillary Torres. Welcome, Hillary!

WELCOME



The Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Rockland is proud to announce that the Rev. Dawn Sangrey has agreed to take the position of half-time minister starting September 1, 2106. Rev. Sangrey impressed both the Search Committee and the Board of Trustees with her dedication to the ministry with us and her vision of our future together. Dawn has had a great deal of experience with small congregations having served with several UU congregations including Mt. Kisco, Kingston, Mohegan Lake, and Stamford. She received glowing recommendations from everyone contacted who has worked with her.

Rev. Sangrey comes to the UUCR from the UU Congregation of the Catskills. Before that, she served as interim minister for two years at the Unitarian Universalist Society in Stamford, following a seven-year Consulting Ministry at the Fourth Unitarian Society of Westchester in Mohegan Lake. Fourth UU had been entirely lay-led for 46 years before the congregation invited Rev. Sangrey to explore with them their potential for working with a professional minister. The congregation made a successful transition to shared ministry during Rev. Sangrey's tenure and to a call their first settled minister.

Rev. Sangrey was ordained to the Unitarian Universalist ministry in June 2001 by the First Religious Society, a UU congregation in Carlisle, MA. She was educated for ministry at Harvard Divinity School and in a college chaplaincy internship at Tufts University in Medford, MA; a hospital chaplaincy in the psychiatric units of the Griffin Hospital in Derby, CT; and a ministerial internship with the First Religious Society in Carlisle. She served as Consulting Minister to the UU Congregation of the Palisades in Englewood, NJ, from 2001 to 2003.

From March to October 2004, Rev. Sangrey was involved in a public witness for marriage equality with the Rev. Kay Greenleaf, then minister of the UU Fellowship in Poughkeepsie. They officiated for dozens of same-sex weddings in New Paltz, NY, and receiving widespread media attention when they were the first clergy to be arrested and charged with a crime for solemnizing gay and lesbian weddings. The charges against Rev. Greenleaf and Rev. Sangrey were dismissed on Constitutional grounds.

Before her ordination, Rev. Sangrey was employed as a public-high-school teacher, a college professor, and a professional writer. She is the author of *Lifestyles: Women Talk About Marriage* (Delacorte Press, 1983) and coauthor with Morton Bard of *The Crime Victim's Book* (Basic Books, 1979). In addition to the Master of Divinity, she holds a Master of Arts in Teaching from Johns Hopkins University and a Master of Fine Arts in Writing from Vermont College.

We look forward to our future with Dawn Sangrey!

GOODBYE

This is to say a fond goodbye to all of you as I head to a new adventure in Arizona on June 13th. It has been a supportive and developing time for me over 50 years as part of the FUSRC and now the UUCR. I wish you an engaging and growing time with Rev. Dawn Sangrey. You are a wonder bunch! I'll miss you. My future address is Marion Francis, 10107 West Candlewood Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351. Love, Marion Francis

AND WE WILL MISS YOU, MARION!!

We thank you for all that you have contributed over the years to the Boards, committees, office, etc. Your time, dedication and friendliness is part of why this congregation is such a wonderful welcoming "family." We wish you Godspeed as you start a new chapter in your life.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Board of Trustees gratefully thanks outgoing chair Harry Shair and outgoing members Sally Andriette and Barbara Francis for their three years as Trustees and

It welcomes with great pleasure new members Diane Bennett, Susan Brunelli and Hillary Torres. The BOT moved to elect Melissa Schroeter as chair and Diane Bennett as vice-chair.

The Board of Worship also gratefully thanks outgoing board members Tricia Larkin, Barrie Peterson and Luis Torres and welcomes Jane Cowan and Tricia (for another 3 years!)

The budget of \$103,000 was unanimously approved.

ROCKLAND LEARNING CENTER

Our objective is to show the children the way to independence, respect of themselves and others, acquire a love of learning and exploration, and a feeling of personal gratification and pride for a job well done. Contact Ms. Jasmine 845 354-5254 130 Conklin Rd., Pomona, NY 10970

email : admin@rlcmontessori.com

OPEN HOUSE: Saturday, June 4, 9 – 11 am

EMILY KRATZER'S PRAISES SONG BY UU METRO DISTRICT

Our own Emily Kratzer received an Unsung Unitarian Universalist award at this year's Metro District meeting. In the accompanying picture¹, the Reverend Walter LeFlore of the UU Congregation of Poughkeepsie hands Emily her award plaque. This annual award is made to an individual volunteer who makes a solid and continuing contribution to the work of her or his congregation or to the District, without consideration of recognition. No one deserves such an award more than Emily.



In every congregation, there are a few individuals who take on much more than their share of tasks and responsibilities. At the UUCR, Emily Kratzer is an extraordinary example of this behavior. What makes Emily even more outstanding is that she not only performs all these tasks in an exemplary manner and without complaining, she actually does them cheerfully.

Emily has been an active, stalwart member of our congregation since she came to a summer service in July, 1982. The attendance was small, about 10 people, but there was something about the message and atmosphere that attracted Emily's further involvement. Summer services have in 2015 attract about 40 attendees. Emily says that she is pleased with this growth, but plays down her important role in the congregation's success. Everyone else knows just how important she has been to us. A personal note: Emily and Fred Voss were married by UU minister Bettye Doty. Their two sons attended our congregation's Sunday school throughout their youth.

Here are some of the contributions that Emily has made or is making:

- Served on the Board of Worship, which includes inviting speakers, coordinating their services, and personally giving one or two sermons each year. First term: 1985 to 1987.

- Head teacher of an RE class in the early 90's and continues to serve as a substitute to the present day.
- Served on the Board of Trustees for 3 years in the early 2000's.
- Clerk of the congregation 2008 to 2015.
- One of the principal movers in Helping Hands at the UUCR, which provides shelter and food for the homeless: early 1990's to the present.
- Chair or member of many committees over the years. Emily currently chairs Sharing and Caring. She is a member of two others: Membership and Memorial Garden.
- Participated in the Chalice Lighter outreach that brought Denice Tomlinson to the UUCR as Director of Religious Education.
- Small Group Ministry coordinator.
- Takes on extra tasks: There are two very recent examples that deserve special notice, because they prompted the idea to submit Emily for this award.

1. When our administrator goes on vacation, Emily takes on all her responsibilities. While I doubt that whoever is reading this needs details of all the chores an administrator handles, they can be supplied if wanted. Most recently, Emily was substitute administrator during January, 2016.
2. The Board of Trustees just asked Emily if she would be willing to create a Policies and Procedures manual for the UUCR. The Board first proposed the idea for the manual almost 10 years ago. Almost nothing has been done since then because the task seemed so daunting. Emily cheerfully agreed to do it.

JUNE SCHEDULE

June 4 & June 12: Private rentals
June 12: UUCR Annual Picnic: after service
Private rental: 3 – 5 pm
June 26: BOT Meeting: noon

*Al-anon meetings Mondays at 9:30 am
& Thursdays at 7:30 pm*

IN MEMORIAM

Many of you may remember Rev. Alan Egly, who served as our part-time minister from 1977 to 1978. He passed away in January of this year.

¹ Photo by Tom Hackett