

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ROCKLAND**

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## **THE ROCKLAND UNITARIAN**

**July/August, 2016**

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**Editor: Mary Holdampf**

**All summer services will be held  
at 10:30 am on Sunday mornings.**

**June 26, 2016**

**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**

**July 3, 2016**

**Jane Cowan**

### **Exploring the Self**

If we don't understand what we are or how we function in the world, we will continue to cause pain and suffering for ourselves, those around us, and for generations to come. Join us for a discussion of the self and the nature of our existence highlighted by songs and poems by our younger churchgoers who are encouraged to attend.

**Coordinator: Jane Cowan**

**July 10, 2016**

**Rev. Gordon Bailey**

### **Racial Justice**

Every human being has value. Even when we don't know it or see it or feel it, our first principle requires us to live with that understanding if we are true to our chosen faith. The suffering caused by racism must be ended if we want to create a fair and loving nation and world. The UUA and many of our congregations work to end racial discrimination and injustice, starting within ourselves and moving out into the world around us. The UU movement supports multiracial, multiethnic congregations and advocates for stopping racist policies like mass imprisonment and attacks on voting rights. Our multicultural ministries will continue until there is peace, liberty, and justice for all.

**Coordinator: Michael Steger**

**July 17, 2016**

**Luis Torres**

### **The Shape of Justice**

This service looks at several US Supreme Court decisions from the last term, including cases on contraception, voting rights, election law and immigration law. We will compare and contrast the high court's sense of justice with that of UUA leaders, our congregation and individual members.

**July 24, 2016** **Beth Richards**  
**Working for Peace in Afghanistan  
Through Education**

Rest assured that this will be another fine UUCR production  
**Coordinator: Michael Steger**

**July 31, 2016** **Rev. Gordon Bailey**  
**Rumi for Beginners**

Rumi has been recognized as one of the spiritual giants of all time. He is someone who was connected at the highest level with the great intellects of all time. Join us as we engage Rumi, maybe the world's greatest mystical poet.

**August 7, 2016** **Laurie Young**  
**Honoring Personal Family Histories**

As a child, I loved the stories that my grandparents told about their earlier lives. As an adult, I treasure the memories they shared as part of my own family history. Join us to share your favorite family stories. Bring pictures and mementos too!

**Coordinator: Tricia Larkin**

**August 14, 2016** **Hillary Torres**  
**Recap of General Assembly**

General Assembly is more than the UUA's annual business meeting. The programs, worship events, witness and service opportunities, and exhibits provide a rich experience to the thousands of UU's who attend each year, plus they give participants a renewed sense of energy, up-to-date information, inspiration and innovative ideas for their congregations and communities. Our Denominational Affairs Liaison, Hillary Torres, will share 2016 GA through music, words, pictures and news.

**Coordinator: Tricia Larkin**

**August 21, 2016** **Barrie Peterson**  
**Aloha Spirit**

Join us for this lei-led service where Barrie Peterson shares the secrets of the Hawaiian Islands

**Coordinator: Jane Cowan**

**August 28, 2016** **Dan Hanchow**  
**What Did You Do On Your Summer Vacation?**

There's no better way to wrap up the summer than a service led by UUCR's resident thespian and raconteur

Thank you to all who helped to fill our 2015-2016 RE year with joy and learning! I enjoyed celebrating Religious Education Sunday with everyone in June. Also, thank you to the RE parents for your generous gift to me. It has been a great first year, and I am looking forward to building upon our foundations in our second year together.

Religious Education classes do not meet during the summer, but children are always welcome. Children are encouraged to bring a book or quiet activity during services. Ana and a summer volunteer will be in the nursery and the classroom next to the nursery. RE classes will resume in September, and I will be sending out registration forms to all our parents this summer.

Thank you to all who have signed up as assistants and lead teachers for the fall! I am excited to see so many new names on the list. We still need a few more lead teachers, and assistants are always welcome. We will have the signup sheets out through July, or you can contact me directly if you would like to get involved.

What's next for 2016-17:

- Nursery infant to 4 yrs. - Ana is our lead care provider; we are still recruiting for a second paid position, so if you know someone (over age 18) who is interested, please let me know.

- K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade - Spirit of Adventure - This class will explore what it means to be Unitarian Universalist, by looking at famous UU's in sports, medicine, food, winter holidays, science, building, the web of life and more. This is an exciting and fun curriculum for an active group.

- 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grade - Neighboring Faiths - This class includes exploration of the world's religions, and various forms of Christianity and includes visits to nearby faith communities of other religions. We will supplement with new resources from Tapestry of Faith's Building Bridges curriculum, which focuses on building understanding and relationships with our nearby faith communities.

- 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade - Youth Ministry -Our youth will meet with advisors in early September to vision for the year ahead. Worship, small group ministry, social justice, and social activities with other congregations are all possible!

I will be on-site organizing and planning throughout the summer, with a few Sundays away in June, July, and August. Have a wonderful summer!

Terri Pahucki

## FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

After three years on the Board, Barbara Francis, Sally Andriette and I stepped down at the end of June. The major events during our tenure were, of course, the departure of our minister Gordon Bailey and the hiring of Dawn Sangrey as our new minister. We want to thank all of you who helped make this transition possible. We also thank the Board of Worship for their efforts in presenting inspiring services.

Here are some other accomplishments during the last three years with and without participation of the Board:

1. Hiring Terri Pahucki as Director of Religious Education.
2. A Saturday evening service once a month.
3. Increased involvement with Helping Hands and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Multipurpose Center.
4. New members have joined at record rates.
5. The median amount pledged has increased by ~\$200.
6. Social Justice, Membership, Memorial Garden, and District Affairs committees are active.
7. We have a presence on Facebook along with our website.
8. The side windows (sliding doors) in the Worship Room no longer function and are in danger of falling out. With the help of an anonymous donor, new windows have been ordered and will be installed this summer.
9. Successful annual picnics and other social events.

While my vision for the future of our congregation centers mainly on spiritual growth, social action, and just plain fun, here are a few nuts and bolts items I would like to see addressed in the near term:

1. Repair the roof.
2. Redo the entrance to the building so it meets code for the handicapped.
3. Begin to replace other windows (sliding doors) in the RE classrooms.
4. Replace the chairs in the Congregation Room and then refinish the floor.

Thank you for the honor of being on the Board of Trustees,  
Harry Shair

## FROM YOUR TREASURER

This month UUCR will be sending a \$750 donation to the Martin Luther King Center from our special first of the month offering this fiscal year. Many thanks to you all!

June wraps up our fiscal year. The first week in July, I will have all outstanding pledge statements sent out to individual members if needed.

Please REMEMBER, any purchases that are made for UUCR must have SALES TAX removed.

If you need a tax exempt form, see Mary in the office or speak with me. We can place our tax exempt status in jeopardy if we do not adhere to this policy.

Barbara Francis

## "OH, GOSH, YOU MEAN I WON?"

I was honored to be nominated for the 2016 UU Metro NY District "Unsung Unitarian Universalist" award this year. Winning it was a happy surprise. I tip my hat and sing the praises of the many people at the UUCR who reliably help in the big and little duties required to keep us functioning and growing. Teamwork helps us shine.

Emily Kratzer

## MEMBERSHIP

### *Greeters for July*

- 3 - Emily Kratzer
- 10 - Hillary Torres
- 17 - Susan Brunelli
- 24 - Seamus Gallagher
- 31 - Alex Finger

### *Greeters for August*

- 7 - Denise Waithe
- 14 - Hillary Torres
- 21 - Susan Brunelli
- 28 - Seamus Gallagher

## EDITOR'S TIDBITS

Because your editor is taking a break for the summer, there will be no August issue of the Rockland Unitarian. The next newsletter will be out September 1.

Here I come, Jersey Shore! I will be spending a week at Seaside Park with my family, all of whom will at some point make an appearance – all 19 of them – not all at once, I hope.

I wish you all a safe and healthy summer with a good dose of fun thrown in. Mary

