

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ROCKLAND

130 Concklin Road, Pomona, NY 10970

Office (845) 354-1789,

www.uurocklandny.org

e-mail: administrator@uurocklandny.org

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

THE ROCKLAND UNITARIAN

May, 2018

Vol. 51, #9

Editor: Mary Holdampf

May 6, 10:30 a.m.

Leslie Jordan

Pleasure Without Conscience

As our discussion on Gandhi's Seven Social Sins wraps up with Pleasure without Conscience and as travel and vacation season begins, we'll take a look at the impact we have as tourists and travellers on the places we visit, particularly in developing areas. How can we be more aware and sensitive to local economies, cultures and peoples as we visitors?

Coordinator: Des Shaw

May 13, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Dawn Sangrey

Julia Ward Howe and Mother's Peace Day

Julia Ward Howe spent her life rebelling against the Victorian ideal of womanhood. She used her respectability, her upper-class status, her intelligence, and her beauty to do what she wanted rather than to conform. First her father and then her husband tried to confine her within the cult of domesticity, but she broke away from their expectations. Howe became famous as the author of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and later converted to Unitarianism and founded a yearly festival called "Mother's Peace Day." This peace day celebration is often said to be the precursor of our modern Mother's Day, but in fact our Mother's Day holiday was founded by Anna Jarvis, another extremely determined woman. Our service celebrates these two feisty women who prevailed against the odds.

Coordinator: Harry Shair

May 20, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Dawn Sangrey

The Case for Optimism

As we gather for worship before the congregation's annual meeting, we will welcome new members and celebrate our leaders. Moving against the cultural tide of negativity and despair, let's explore a more positive view of our circumstances. In two recent books--*It's Better Than It Looks: Reasons for Optimism in an Age of Fear* by Gregg Easterbrook and *Factfulness* by Hans Rosling—these authors argue that the facts belie our fears. Neither is a Pollyanna, and both base their views in science. We will consider their case for optimism today.

Coordinator: Jane Cowan

May 27, 10:30 a.m.

Larry Winters

Memorial Day

With today's bombardment of fear and hate reported by the media, it becomes understandable why our modern Memorial Days have become parties for hot dogs and hamburgers. This may simply be a way to step away from the dirge of violence mankind is creating. It may be difficult to see Memorial Day as a meditation on the sacrifices made by our ancestors. I want to ask you to locate the moment somewhere in the days before, after or during Memorial Day where the reality of why we have this day will come into consciousness. At that moment I offer support to you in making a nod, closing your eyes, taking a breath, maybe saying a silent thank you, and praying for the ever growing list of soldiers and enemy dead being added to Memorial Day.

Coordinator: Harry Shair

Inspiration Means To Breathe Into Your Soul

Respiration means to take in physical breath. No matter what, it's important to keep breathing. If you hold your breath for very long, you'll pass out. In times of distress, breathing slowly and deeply often helps. So don't forget to breathe.

Inspiration means to take in some light, some nourishment, some life-giving breath for your soul. Use the words that work for you. Call it *soul*, call it *spirit*, call it *animating principle*—I'm talking about the force that helps you rise up and face another day. The power that allows you to see the wonder in spite of everything and to be grateful.

I don't know about you, but around this time of year, my soul needs support. We're close to the end but not yet at the end of another year at UUCR together. The pledge drive is almost completed. Plans are in the works for the annual meeting and our end-of-the-year activities. Summer services are beginning to come together. Lots to do and think about.

I've been renewed in April by some time away: first for a family vacation and then for a professional meeting. My siblings and I get together once a year for a reunion. Last month we spent a week in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California, where one of my brothers lives. Then at the end of the month I went to Texas for the Interim Ministers Guild seminar. I am grateful to the board of trustees and the congregation for supporting these activities, which nourish my soul.

Where do you get your inspiration when things are busy and your soul is breathless, famished, undernourished?

For me it's a combination of stepping away and then digging in, with attention to the things that delight my soul, such as music and walking in the woods and spending time with my family. When I neglect these soul-reviving practices, I become dull and lifeless. Taking time to breathe new life into my soul makes it possible for me to engage more fully with the work ahead.

I wish you energy and joy and soul time for inspiration. Take care of yourself so that you can be present to whatever your life will bring you and the congregation in the month to come.

Blessings.
Dawn

The Rev. Dawn Sangrey, Consulting Minister
dawnsangrey@gmail.com
845-419-5323

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes are winding down for the year! And what an exciting year it has been! In May, we take on our final horcrux- Saving the Environment. All ages are invited to join us in helping to Keep Rockland Beautiful on the morning of Saturday, May 5th. Our Children's Worship Service on May 6th will center on the 7th Principle: We believe in caring for our planet Earth, the home we share with all living things. Then, at 11:45 AM on May 6th, everyone is invited to join us as we unveil and dedicate our new Little Free Library, which RE classes painted and put together last fall. The library will be posted near the entrance way, as you turn into the parking lot. Everyone is welcome to "take a book, leave a book". The library will be listed in an online directory: <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>

We will have our final Harry Potter classes on May 6th and May 20th. Also in May, the Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education class will complete their yearlong series of workshops. What an accomplishment! We will celebrate all that our children and youth have discovered and learned this past year through their religious education classes on RE Sunday, which takes place the second weekend in June. There will be no RE classes on Mother's Day or Memorial Day Weekend, but we will have special arts and crafts activities those days available for all children to participate in during the service time. Also this month, teens in 8th-12th grade are invited to join for Teen Game Night on Friday, May 18th from 6-10 PM. This event is open to UUCR youth, as well as youth from other UU congregations.

MAY RE SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------|--|
| May 6 | Children's Worship Service, RE Classes |
| 13 | All Ages Children's Activity |
| 20 | RE classes |
| 27 | All Ages Children's Activity |

Terri Pahucki
 Director of Religious Education
 dre@uurocklandny.org

KEEP ROCKLAND BEAUTIFUL JOIN THE UUCR TEAM!

Where: Bowline Park, Haverstraw
When: Saturday May 5, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Our RE classes are tackling social justice issues this year, and in April and May we are focusing on the environment. We are encouraging all RE participants to attend the cleanup on May 5 with one or more parents. If you can't make May 5, sign up for another cleanup on the Keep Rockland Beautiful website. We would also love to see other members of the congregation join our team.

On the day of the cleanup, arrive at the check-in point at Bowline Point Park at 9 a.m. and stay for as long as you can—you don't have to stay the whole time. Please sign up in advance no later than April 27 at the KRB Cleanup website:
<http://keeprocklandbeautiful.org/event/riverkeeper-sweep-bowline-point-park/>

More info will be available as the date gets closer, but contact Tracey Hancock of the UU with any questions in the meantime, 845-653-1092
purewest@verizon.net



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The "potluck" for the annual meeting on May 20th will be finger food/sandwiches, desserts and salad, like cookies, brownies, fruit, carrot sticks, apple slices, etc. - easy-to-handle items that go well with sandwiches.

Greeters for May

- May 6 Sally Andriette
- May 13 Alex Finger
- May 20 Geraldine Shaw
- May 27 Emily Kratzer



HEAR YE HEAR YE Call to Annual Meeting

The annual congregational meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockland will be held on the premises on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at noon. All eligible voters are invited to attend. Finger foods will be served.

UUCR

- May 6 BOT: Noon
 OWL: 12:30 – 3:30 pm
- May 18 Teen Game Night: 6 – 10 pm
- May 20 New Member Ceremony: 10:30 am
 Annual Meeting: Noon
 Potluck Sunday
 AI-Anon meets Mondays at 9:30 am
 Yoga with Roseanne meets Thursdays from 12 – 1 pm
 Please check calendar for private events.



*Please note revised deadline
 for June Newsletter*

MAY 15, 2018, 6 PM

COMMUNITY BOARD

You are invited to check the community bulletin board at the rear of the Worship Room. Many interesting tidbits are listed there for your perusal. Also, there are many very informative brochures on a variety of subjects that are yours to browse through. Please feel free to take one.



Recycling at UUCR can be done in a variety of ways:

- Paper – there is a basket on the office floor labeled: “Paper Recycling.” Please use it for any discarded paper or cardboard.
- Cartridges – Please leave used cartridges on my desk in office. I am able to recycle them for rewards with Staples, and they greatly reduce our office expenses!
- Cans, bottles – Please deposit only those that can be redeemed for cash.

Because we are not a private residence, there is no pickup for recycled paper, glass or metals. We depend on members to take these materials home in order to recycle them.

Mary Holdampf

EDITOR'S NEWS

Please note the revised submission date for June newsletter news – May 15, 6 pm. I will be travelling towards the end of May into the beginning of June. Hopefully this will be a much more relaxing (& less exciting!) trip than my last. Rhine and Mosel Rivers – I'm ready!



SPRING - JOY

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.



Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

~Wm. Wordsworth

SPRING - SADNESS

From you have I been absent in the spring,
When proud pied April dress'd in all his trim
Hath put a spirit of youth in every thing,
That heavy Saturn laugh'd and leap'd with him.
Yet nor the lays of birds nor the sweet smell
Of different flowers in odour and in hue
Could make me any summer's story tell,
Or from their proud lap pluck them where they grew;
Nor did I wonder at the lily's white,
Nor praise the deep vermilion in the rose;
They were but sweet, but figures of
delight,

Drawn after you, you pattern of all those.
Yet seem'd it winter still, and, you away,
As with your shadow I with these did play.

~Wm. Shakespeare

