

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ROCKLAND**

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## **THE ROCKLAND UNITARIAN**

**July/August 2018**

**Vol. 51, #11**

**Editor: Mary Holdampf**

### **SUMMER SERVICES**

**July 1, 10:30 am**

**Leslie d'Oronzio**

#### **Meet Some of Our Neighbors**

A discussion with several of our neighbors of diverse backgrounds and experiences offering some alternative perspectives that are part of the American experience

*Coordinator: Leslie d'Oronzio*

**July 8, 10:30 am**

**Des Shaw**

#### **Understanding the NRA**

This is a continuation of my impromptu service on June 3 where I showed that the power of guns has increased beyond all recognition from the technology that was available when the Second Amendment was born. Thus this amendment can no longer be justified simply "because the Founding Fathers said so." We have to rethink this one for ourselves. The National Rifle Association has only 5 million members, or one in 65 of all Americans, way smaller than the YMCA (21 million) or the Democratic Party (45 million), and not a lot larger than Emily's list (3 million). Yet it's no fringe group: the ideas it represents are clearly supported by a much larger number of people in this country – maybe even a majority. Let's look beyond the demonization by our liberal media to see what those ideas are.

*Coordinator: Des Shaw*

**July 15, 10:30 am**

**Jane Cowan**

#### **What Can RE Do For Me?**

Spiritual growth is a lifelong pursuit. We're here to learn and grow, the ultimate goal of which is the cultivation of our souls, the unfolding of our powers and capacities as human beings. There are many opportunities for spiritual growth for all ages. Join us for a discussion of what religious education is within Unitarian Universalism, and its potential within our congregational community and beyond.

*Coordinator: Jane Cowan*

**July 22, 10:30 am**

**Rev. Dawn Sangrey**

#### **Not a Valentine. A Muscle**

Your heart isn't a paper cutout or a chocolate raspberry cream. It's a muscle that keeps you alive from your first breath to your last. You may have heard the claim that heartfelt love can be life-changing. Your own life may have been changed by love. What does it mean to say that our UU faith can be life-changing? And what's love got to do with it?

*Coordinator: Rob Young*

**July 29, 10:30 am**

**Rev Joy Christie Przeworski**

#### **The Possibilities of Journeys While Traveling**

Summer brings with it the flow of imagination and the places we wish to explore and discover, What goes into the preparation process? What can be a deeper way of culling from any journey a more complete view of self and others? What types of journeying possibilities abound when we are willing to be aware? This is an invitation to come and dive deep.

*Coordinator: Tricia Larkin*

**August 5, 10:30 am**                      **Scot McDermid**  
**Career, Connection, and Oneness**

I don't claim to know the meaning of life, but I have a model about what brings life meaning: Growing as an individual, connecting with people, and connecting with something bigger. All three of these involve leaning into vulnerability and openness. This model includes fear, courage, being in the moment and being out of the moment.  
*Coordinator: Harry Shair*

**August 12, 10:30 am**                      **Jim Recktenwal**  
**Social Security – Is it OK?**

To most of us, Social Security is a key component of our retirement, and is strongly correlated to Social and Economic Justice. How does it work? What are the big trends over the past 60 years? How does it look for the next 20? What threats does it face? Is it going to be OK? Come and learn more. *Coordinator: Harry Shair*

**August 19, 10:30 am**                      **Jane Cowan**  
**Love in Action**

We believe in economic justice, environmental justice, racial justice, and that love is love. We have high ideals and beautiful dreams, but what does it look like when we make our dreams come true? What do these ideals look like in real life? Join us for a discussion of grounded steps we can all take towards changing our lives into demonstrations of love toward the world.  
*Coordinator: Jane Cowan*

**August 26, 10:30 am**                      **Mike Steger**  
**Social Justice through Sports**

High profile athletes have long had a prominent public platform from which they have addressed social issues. From Tommy Smith and John Carlos to Muhammad Ali to LeBron James and Chris Long, athletes have promoted social justice, sometimes at great personal cost.  
*Coordinator: Rob Young*

**September 2, 10:30 am**                      **Harry Shair**  
**CleanUp**

Come join us as we prepare our building and grounds for the new church year. We have one or two tools, but it would be most he

## *HERE AT UUCR*

### *OVER THE SUMMER MONTHS*

In nineteenth-century New England many Unitarian and Universalist churches shut down for the summer. From the end of June until Labor Day, even into the twentieth century, UU congregations went dark. Their ministers took extended times off, and the lay people also took a break from their churchgoing attendance and duties.

More recently, we UU's have come to see the importance of maintaining the public presence of our faith over the summer months, and nowadays almost all of our congregations stay open. Coming together for worship every week continues to be essential. Newcomers who are searching for a spiritual home often are looking in the summertime. We need each other just as much in July as we do in October.

Here at UUCR, our congregational life continues twelve months of the year. In the summer things are more relaxed and informal. Most worship services will be led by members of the congregation, including the members of the Board of Worship, who organize the services. I'll be preaching on July 22.

My summer schedule is a little bit of this and a little bit of that. I'm looking forward to taking some time off and also having leave time for study. The exact dates are noted elsewhere in this newsletter.

During my first week of vacation, my husband and I will be hiking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and off the grid. We can't wait to get away. Our plans for the rest of my time off are still uncertain. We may go to the beach. For each of my vacation days, I'm intentionally unavailable. Taking time away from the congregation is essential for my spiritual wellbeing, and I will return to work refreshed and renewed.

The ministers' cluster of UU colleagues in the area cover for each other for emergency pastoral care during the summer. This arrangement allows each of us to get completely away without leaving our congregations unattended. Mary Holdampf, Hillary Torres, Emily Kratzer, and Trudy Pojman have the



contact information for this coverage, which is for true emergencies.

During study leave, I will be on call for pastoral care. This summer I'll be learning more about small group ministry, preparing for BOT and BOW retreats, studying congregational mission and vision, and getting ready for preaching in the fall.

During the weeks when I'm working, I will be keeping my regular office hours from 2 to 5 on Wednesdays. I'm also available for lunch! Please be in touch with me if you want to get together, and we'll make a plan.

Many blessings for a restful and nourishing summer.

*Dawn*

The Rev. Dawn Sangrey, Consulting Minister  
[dawnsangrey@gmail.com](mailto:dawnsangrey@gmail.com)  
845-419-5323

### ***Rev. Dawn's Summer Schedule***

Working as usual: June 18 – June 21; July 16 – 22;  
August 13 – 19, 29 – 31.

Vacation: June 22 – June 30, July 30 – August 12.

Study Leave: July 1 – July 14; July 23 – July 29;  
August 20 – 28

## ***RE NEWS***

The 2017-18 Religious Education year has come to an end. And what a year! The RE children did not want to see it go and even started a petition to keep our Harry Potter curriculum. (We are listening and will continue to weave magic into RE classes...)

We had a joyful RE Sunday and Bridging Ceremony in June. Thank you to the RE parents and teachers for your thoughtful and generous gift to me of flowers and a gift card to purchase a minister's stole in the near future! I am grateful for all your support with Religious Education throughout this past year. Thank you to the teachers and volunteers who make RE possible. Special recognition goes to Tracey Hancock, who we are sad to see leave us as

RE Committee Chair. Tracey has been the creative spark behind so many of our children's performances and projects, as well as the detail-holder and coordinator for many activities. As Tracey makes plans to relocate upstate, we wish her all the best.

Religious Education classes do not meet during the summer, but children are always welcome at services. We will also have childcare in the nursery with Danielle and Kyle. Kyle returns to school at the end of July, so we will have an opening for a childcare provider to start in August. If you know of anyone 18+ who might be interested in this paid position, please have them contact me directly. What's next for 2017-18?

- Infant to Pre-K - Childcare is provided every Sunday. We also invite our preschoolers and their caregivers to join us for children's worship and intergenerational services.
- Grades K-5 - We will be using *Timeless Themes*, an interactive curriculum based on the Hebrew and Christian Bible Stories.
- Grades 6-12 - On most Sundays, RE classes will use *D'Oh God-* a theology curriculum based on the TV series the Simpsons. On the first Sunday of the month, *Coming of Age* youth in grades 8-11 will meet with me and their mentors, while those in grades 6-7 will join the *Timeless Themes* class.

We are still looking for teachers and assistants for the fall, so please let me know if you are able to help. I will be on-site organizing and planning throughout the summer, with a few Sundays away in June, July, and August. Have a great summer!

Terri Pahucki  
[dre@uurocklandny.org](mailto:dre@uurocklandny.org)





## SUMMER RELAXING TIME AT UUCR

### MEMBERSHIP

#### *Greeters*

- July 1, Alex Finger
- July 8, Roberta Chang
- July 15, Geraldine Shaw
- July 22, Susan Brunelli
- July 29, Trudy Pojman
  
- Aug. 5, Roberta Chang
- Aug. 12, Emily Kratzer
- Aug. 19 and Aug. 26, TBA

Please check web calendar for events at the UU over the summer. Check office calendar for private events.

On Thursdays from 12 – 1 pm, join Roseanne for Adaptive Yoga, a playful, empowering, relaxing and challenging class. Sign up weekly by texting 1 973 234 2082 or emailing Roseanne at [rfbreilly@gmail.com](mailto:rfbreilly@gmail.com)

- July 8, BOT Meeting: noon  
Yoga with Jane Cowan: 1 – 3 pm
  
- July 22, BOW Retreat: 12 – 5 pm

### EDITOR'S TIDBITS

Have just returned from a river cruise through the Rhine and Mosel Rivers – mostly in Germany. We met a fantastic group of people, enjoyed good food and viewed spectacular scenery along the rivers – castles, vineyards, churches, etc. One of our best times was spent having lunch with a German family. There were six of us, and we were able to have a great discussion on family life. Another highlight was visiting Ruben's house in Antwerp where I saw many paintings that I had previously admired in books. No language barrier anywhere along the way as most of the people we met spoke several languages! If I could choose any superpower, it would be the ability to converse in any language in any country that I visit.

I'm now ready for my next adventure wherever that may be!

#### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

#### SEPTEMBER ISSUE

**AUGUST 19, 2018, 6 PM**

