



Newsletter



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South
Jersey Shore

Volume 12, Issue 03

March 2010

March Services

We meet at our UU Center, Pomona Rd and Liebig Street, Galloway NJ (near the north entrance to Richard Stockton College).
Services are at 10:00 am unless otherwise noted.

<p>March 7</p>	<p>Unitarian History: World War II Footnotes <i>Lay speaker Bill Felix</i> The subject of the sermon is the WWII activities of three Unitarians. Charles Rhind Joy and the Rev and Mrs Waitstill Sharp. These three helped hundreds flee the Nazi regime.</p>
<p>March 14 Adopt-A-Road Cleanup</p>	<p>All Creatures Great and Small, or Things you can learn from your dog <i>Lay speaker Richard Grzywinski</i> Are you become increasingly overwhelmed by issues regarding animal rights? How should you respond? What is the proper ethical relationship between human and non-human animals? Better yet, why should we even trouble ourselves with this question? Can reason and philosophy provide the answers, or must we reach within to our own spirituality?</p>
<p>March 21 Peace Vigil</p>	<p>Talking About the “T” Word <i>Guest minister Rev. Jeff Gamblée</i> As we move into the post modern age, we UUs are finding our former orthodoxy of “reason and fact” in religion is softening with our desire for mystery and transcendence. Pastor Jef will speak of ghosts, quote historical Unitarians, acknowledge today’s peace vigil and share his take on the hunger with which we (almost) dare not speak.</p>
<p>March 28</p>	<p>Making Choices <i>Guest speaker Dr. Carol Rittner</i> During the Holocaust, people who today we refer to as “righteous gentiles” – rescuers, or, in Ervin Staub’s words, “active bystanders” – were a very small minority, not at all representative of the attitudes and responses of most non-Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe during World War II and the Hitler era. They highlight the issue of “choice”, that is the power of a person to choose an option when faced with the question, “Whose side am I on?” What is the role of “good” people in difficult times?</p>

Important Dates		Winter Weather?
<p>Fellowship Dinner Saturday evening, March 27</p>	<p>Re-think Afghanistan Friday, March 5, 7 pm</p>	<p>UUCSJS has in place a phone tree for emergency notifications. Services will be cancelled only in case of SEVERE weather situations. You can see a copy of the phone tree on our Members-Only webspace. Go to uucsjs.org and click on Members Only, log in, then click on Miscellaneous Documents.</p>
<p>General Canvass March 28 thru April 25</p>	<p>Mystery Pals March 21 thru April 25</p>	



Our guest speakers this month...

Bill Felix, with his wife Peg, first attended the Germantown Unitarian Church in 1964 where they were members through 1968. In early 1969 the Felix family (Peg and three children) moved to Vienna, Austria where Bill worked for IBM. In late 1973 the Felix family returned to the USA and settled in Summit, NJ where they joined the Summit Unitarian Church. In 1997, after he retired, Bill and Peg moved to Long Beach Island where they are today. Bill and Peg were members of the Ocean County UU congregation for two years but left it to join UUCSJS in 2005. Since his retirement Bill has done volunteer work twice in China and once in Armenia and Macedonia.

The **Reverend Jeffrey B. Gamblée** is in his first year as the Interim Minister at First Unitarian Society of Westchester, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY. Previously he served as Minister in Residence at Community Unitarian Church at White Plains, NY. A long time UU, Rev. Gamblée's first career was in corporate and commercial television in Cincinnati, Ohio. He lives with his wife and two cats in beautiful Staten Island.

Dr. Carol Rittner, R.S.M., a Roman Catholic nun, is Distinguished Professor of Holocaust & Genocide Studies, and the Dr. Marsha Raticoff Grossman Professor of Holocaust Studies at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, where she has taught since 1994.

She is the author, editor, or coeditor of numerous publications, including *The Courage to Care, Different Voices: Women and the Holocaust, The Holocaust and the Christian World, "Good News" after Auschwitz?, Beyond Hate, Pius XII and the Holocaust, Will Genocide Ever End?, and Genocide in Rwanda: Complicity of the Churches?*. She was a member of the editorial team for *Beyond the "Never Again"*, a book published by the Office of the Prime Minister of Sweden in 2005. She was the Associate Editor of *The Genocide Forum* (USA), the Editor of *Perspectives* (UK), and the Editor of *The Aegis Review on Genocide* (UK). She is the Editor of *Mercywords: An E-journal*.

Dr. Rittner's current research interests include rescue during the Holocaust and other post-Holocaust genocides. Her newest book project will be about the use of rape as a weapon of war and genocide.

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it. — *the Talmud*

Murray Grove News Update:

The topic for March 28 Rainbow Circle at Murray Grove is "**Buddhist Teachings to Support the GLBT Communities,**" presented by UU Buddhist educator Alan Oliver.

The **Rainbow Circle at Murray Grove:** Gatherings, Celebrations, Workshops/Trainings and Support for the **GLBT Community** happen monthly! All Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning and Intersex folks and their allies and supporters are encouraged to come! The next is March 28. Future dates will vary, but it's on a Sunday once each month, from 5 to 6 pm (free will donation), followed by dinner (\$5 per person suggested minimum donation). RSVP at 609-693-5558 or murraygrove@murraygrove.org

Grove Gatherings at Murray Grove: Musical/Artistic Coffee Houses. Every second Wednesday of the month, 6 to 7 pm potluck (BYOB); 7 to 9 pm entertainment; \$10 per person

A variety of artists will perform and visual arts will be incorporated, in English Folk Music Club form, where performers can share their craft and engage the audience.

On Wednesday, March 10, Valerie Vaughn, songwriter and performer, will share songs about New Jersey history and folklore. This program is made possible in part by a grant administered by the *Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission*, in conjunction with the *New Jersey State Council of the Arts/Department of State*, a Partner Agency of the *National Endowment for the Arts*.

Wisdom Circle

March 2 and March 16

7 to 9 pm

Prayer, Meditation and Sacred Dialogue.

At Theresa McReynold's house.

Contact Theresa for directions.

CALLING ALL CARD TABLES!!!!

The Interior Subcommittee is looking for donations of card tables that can be used at our monthly coffee house as well as other FUUN activities. If you have a card table to donate, could you drop it off at UU within the next month? See Kathie Benner or Jesse Connor.

REFLECTIONS by President Jim Gentile

Fulfilling the Promise, Working the Dream

This month we begin our Annual Stewardship Campaign. The theme established by the Annual Stewardship Campaign Committee is "Fulfilling the Promise, Working the Dream."

While we may have a tendency among ourselves not to talk much about the importance of the Stewardship Campaign, we are aware that it is of significant importance to all of us. Clearly, we are a Congregation which has been blessed with the good fortune of the generosity of our members. We are blessed with the good fortune to gather, often multiple times within the same week, in our individual and collective quest for truth and meaning within a community that accepts us and gives us a place of solace. We are blessed with the good fortune of knowing we are in a place where we belong. Quite simply, we are blessed. The pledges which we make and honor as a result of the Annual Stewardship Campaign, enable us to continue to share and to grow these blessings, both among ourselves and with the greater community. Our Annual Campaign is a time to examine and appreciate all of the things in our Congregational life which give us joy and meaning and also to determine how we can expand the joy and deepen the meaning. In other words, how we can "Fulfill the Promise and Work the Dream." Please open your hearts and spirits to this process in the coming Stewardship Campaign.

The Campaign is one aspect of the relationship of stewardship which we maintain with the Congregation by belonging to it. Stewardship is a holistic concept which encompasses how we understand and appreciate what we have inherited, what we have been given, what we have earned and how we decide to use them consistent with our values and beliefs. It strikes me as synchronous that the Annual Campaign's theme of "Fulfilling the Promise and Working the Dream" comes to the fore as the Board is determining how best to implement an action plan consistent with the ideas which arose at the workshop on January 24, 2010. These ideas included ways to increase the diversity of the congregation, shared ministry as well as further involving the Congregation in service to the community at large. It is anticipated that the Board will be reaching out to members of the Congregation to form a committee to create that plan. If you would like to participate in the creation and presentation of such an action plan to the Congregation, please email me and let me know.

Jim

Please note! Board of Trustees meetings are ALWAYS open to the public.
Any member can observe – no advance “permission” or “RSVP” needed – just SHOW UP!
Board meetings are the second Tuesday of the month, 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the downstairs lounge.

Notes from Board Meeting February 9, 2010

At February's Board meeting, a proposed sale of Earth Day t-shirts to benefit the Childrens RE Playground Fund was accepted by the Board.

Treasurer Prim Reeves presented the initial draft budget for the 2010-2011 program year; a second draft incorporating discussion items will be ready for the March Board meeting. Expenditures this past month included a new cabinet for storage of sanctuary and chalice table items, and a new ladder. A proposal for an electronic projector, which several committees expressed a need for, will be worked up for the next meeting.

It was suggested that an adhoc committee be formed to process the results of the January 24 visioning exercise. An alternative would be to revive the Committee on Ministry for this task.

Next Board meeting – Tuesday, March 9, at 6:30 pm in the downstairs lounge.

Board of Trustees 2009-2010

Jim Gentile 10 *President*
Debbi Dagavarian 10 *Vice President*
Karen Zindell 11 *Secretary*
Primrose Reeves 10 *Treasurer*

Ruth Eaves 10
John Searight 11
Karen York 11

Committee Meeting schedule

1st Sunday Adult RE, Social Justice
2nd Sunday Children's RE, Interweave, FUUN
3rd Sunday Sunday Services
4th Sunday Membership
5th Sunday Potluck! *Please, no committee meetings.*

UU Book Lovers

The February meeting of the book group was cancelled due to inclement weather. Therefore, on March 19, we will have a "brief" but "wondrous" discussion on *The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. We will also be discussing *The Sex Lives of Cannibals: Adrift in the Equatorial Pacific* by J. Maarten Troost. For more information, please contact Helene Gentile.

**Cabbage is inexpensive –
consume mass quantities!**



Buy **Gift Cards** any Sunday for **Acme & Shoprite**.

Don't you have to buy groceries anyway??!

Using these gift cards for groceries nets the congregation 5%.
We also have Fair Trade coffee and tea!

UUCSJS Women's Association Meetings

Margaret Circle

The next meeting of the Margaret Circle will be held in the Library at the Center on Thursday, March 4, at 1:00 pm.

Kathleen Hartnett will lead the group in a discussion based on Elizabeth Lesser's book *The Seeker's Guide* on basic questions of spirituality on how we live, love and die. Kathleen is reminded of a definition of love that she learned previously and which she wants to share and discuss with the circle.

Please RSVP to Kathryn Kelley, if you plan to attend, for a thought provoking discussion.

Olympia Circle

The next meeting of our evening circle will be on Thursday, March 11 at 7 pm in the Library at the Center. Since our last meeting had to be cancelled due to the snow storm we will be having the program planned for last month. Marsha Hannah and Prim Reeves will present the program, *Would You Like To Know More About Yourself?* If so, join us and take a simple "Meyers-Briggs" type self-scored test. We will discuss the different personality types and how they relate to each other. Hopefully we will leave with a better understanding of ourselves and each other and how different people respond to the world around them.

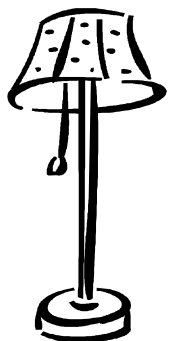
We will begin by lighting the Chalice at 7 pm and start sharing with each other anything significant that happened in our life this past month, so try to be on time so you won't miss anything. Gayle Eaves will be providing refreshments. All women are invited -- you do not have to be a member to come to our Women's circle groups. If you plan to attend please RSVP to Marsha Hannah.

Women's Spirituality Circle

This group will be meeting on the third Tuesday of the month, which will be March 16 at 7 pm in the lounge at the Center. We will be discussing the fourth chapter, *Humanizing Spirituality*, of Elizabeth Lesser's book, *The Seekers Guide*. If you are interested in joining this group please contact Kathryn Kelley.

Greenlight Coffeehouse

The second Greenlight Coffeehouse was due to be held Friday, February 25 but was cancelled due to the "snowicane". The next Greenlight Coffeehouse will be Friday, March 25, 7 to 10 pm in the Sanctuary. (*Hopefully we'll be done with all the snow by then!*) Come out for some joyful noise!



Fulfilling the Promise –

Annual Stewardship Campaign

By Paul Utts, Chair

Last month we participated in workshop to identify our common goals and dreams as a congregation. It was clear I think to those that participated that although we are members of this congregation for a variety of reasons, we share a common vision of our future. As our group grows, so do our aspirations – we *want to do more* – and our reach – we are *able to do more*.

Ours is a shared ministry, and to accomplish the important work of our congregation we need to establish and fund our annual budget. Each year we ask members to make a financial commitment to support the ongoing programs and growth of the congregation during our annual Stewardship Campaign.

This year the Stewardship campaign will kick off on:

Saturday, March 27 with a **Potluck Fellowship Dinner and Talent show** from **6 to 9 pm**.

This will be a time for us to strengthen our bonds and have delicious food and lots of fun.

From **March 28 to April 25**, members of the congregation will meet for individual, face-to-face **stewardship conversations** with each other about our collective hopes and dreams for our future. When your canvasser calls, please make an arrangement to meet with them for this conversation.

To help us all realize our common and individual dreams we must commit our resources; time, talent and treasure, to our purpose. Stewardship is part of the process of fulfilling the promise to each other. A dream is just an unrealized goal -- it takes work to get there. We look forward to your participation in this important work to **Fulfill our Promise**.

**11th Annual Fellowship Dinner:
Saturday, March 27**

Food signup: Wendy Terrazinni

Talent: Barbara Miller

Other: Betsy Searight

You will receive a written invitation in the mail very soon, with more details.

Important Dates:

Canvasser training

Thursday, March 4, 6:30 to 9 pm or
Saturday, March 6, 9:30 am to 12 noon.
Refreshments and expert training will be available. We will be inviting participation, but if you are interested to volunteer or learn more about the process, contact Karen York.

Fellowship Dinner

Saturday, March 27.

Potluck dinner with Talent show. Everyone is invited!!

General Canvass

March 28 through April 25.

Members will be contacted by a canvasser for a stewardship conversation.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

MISSION: Broadening Religious Imaginations

Due to the snowstorm on the weekend of February 7, the Adult RE Committee did not meet in February.

Please note that *Evensong* is a new offering that will begin soon. The program is a small group ministry that is held in members homes in each geograph area. Anyone who is interested in either joining a group or receiving more information should sign up on the sheets that are on the table outside of the kitchen.

-- Marsha Hannah, Chair, Adult RE



2010 JPD Spring Conference Redefining 'The Good Life': Faith & Values for a Sustainable Future

April 16-17, 2010

Clarion Hotel Park Ridge
King of Prussia, PA

Conference Highlights

- Outstanding worship by leading JPD ministers
- Friday night coffee house with Grammy-nominated JPD minister, Rev. Dan Schatz
- Nationally known Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Schuler, Author of *Making the Good Life Last: Four Keys to Sustainable Living*
- 29 workshops to choose from
- Bookstore with up to date offerings for your congregation
- Exhibits from diverse UU organizations
- Food-filled Friday-night reception with a cash bar. Come meet the JPD Board, Staff and your fellow UUs!
- Family-friendly track programming
- Celebration service involving youth to close the conference

Children's Religious Education

Religious Education Classes

This winter our **SpiritPlay** class has been hearing stories from the world's religious traditions; exploring kindness with *The King and the Loyal Dog*, learning about giving and receiving with *The Tiger and the Lame Fox* and finding out *How Ganesh Got His Elephant Head*. This spring the Spiritplay class will focus on stories from the Judeo-Christian tradition.

The **Spirit of Adventure** class will discuss some great inventors and scientists that belong to the Unitarian Universalist tradition like Alexander Graham Bell and Maria Mitchell. They will also enjoy a visit from one of our own famous UUs; Michael Cluff, who will share a lesson about optical illusions.

Our **Bibleodeon** class will be moving on to the New Testament, and hearing the stories of Jesus' ministry and ideology while the teens in the **Popcorn Theology** group will consider assumptions, temptation, and forgiveness with a little help from the films *Dances with Wolves*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Hoosiers*, and *Field of Dreams*.

Mystery Pals

The Children's RE Committee is excited to be coordinating our Mystery Pal program once again this year. Being a Mystery Pal offers our congregation members the opportunity to become acquainted with the youth in the community. Information and signup sheets will be available this month, and our Mystery pal exchange will run from March 21 thru April 25. Speak to Katy Cardwell if you have any questions about mystery pals.

Showtime!

Look for our youth to present an uplifting "ditty" at this month's Fellowship Dinner; it will be a real treat!

-- Heidi Jansch, Director of Religious Education

A big "Thank You" from Children's Religious Education

Thank you to everyone who has been recycling their **ink cartridges** through UUCSJS, and to those who supported the **Earth Day t-shirt sale**.

Our Playground Fund is growing,
thanks to your donations!

Join us for our first annual

Blue Jean Sunday

Sunday, March 28

11:30 am to 4 pm

Lunch will be provided for volunteers to give you the energy you'll need to give the UUCSJS Center a **spring cleaning, inside and out!**

Sign up on the sheet in the vestibule, or talk to Heidi Jansch or Jesse Connor for more information

**How far does your food travel
to get to your table?
Did you know YOU CAN VOTE
three times a day with your fork?**

Spend March 21, 2010 with
Joel Salatin

(of Polyface Farms, Omnivores Dilemma, Food Inc.
and now FRESH the movie)
at the UU Church of Annapolis - 333 Dubois Rd. -
Annapolis, MD

And watch FRESH the movie

Two movie showings with FRESH director, Ana
Sophia Joanes
2:30 pm and 6 pm

Vendor/Exhibitor Fair: 2pm to 6pm
Meet with local farmers, enjoy samples of local shrimp, oysters,
beef, bison, milk, wine, cheese and more! Also, learn where to
eat out and shop for local food.

**This will be a no trash/waste event. Please bring your own
cup, fork/spoon, and plate.**

Gardening Classes (\$5 each, pay at the door)
Spaces are limited to 25, first come-first served. Reserve your
spot, replytofresh@gmail.com.

4pm - Gardening 101: Getting Started

5pm - Advanced Gardening and Composting & Q&A

Doors Open at 2pm

\$12 per person - Please Carpool!
Sorry, No Childcare Available.

For information, call Diane (410) 643-3283.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SOCIAL JUSTICE?

We were delighted to have more than 40 UUs, friends of UU, and Stockton students brave the February cold to see the Oscar-nominated film, *Food, Inc.* This important and powerful documentary based on books by Michael Pollan and by Eric Schlosser books was very well- received and led to an interesting discussion following the screening. Members of the SJC, led by the efforts of Angela Jones, did an outstanding job providing handouts on many aspects of ethical eating, and refreshments that would have passed the taste test and muster of the authors of the film! Organic, vegan and delicious! If you weren't able to attend, the DVD is available through Netflix and other video companies.

The focus for the Social Justice table this month is Peace. We will have Peace buttons for sale as well as Fair Trade coffee, tea, chocolate bars, hot cocoa, and baking cocoa.

Friday, March 5, 7 pm – Re-think Afghanistan

Snow forced us to reschedule the showing of this 62-minute documentary by Robert Greenwald which examines key issues surrounding the war in Afghanistan (See your February newsletter for a full write-up.) Following the screening and discussion, facilitator Richard Grzywinski will be passing out a questionnaire to solicit congregants' views on Afghanistan and other issues of peace and war. This feedback will help the SJC move forward with a better sense of what members of the congregation think about our country's involvement in Afghanistan.

Sunday, March 14, 11:30-12:30 – UU Adopt-a-Road Cleanup

After service on March 14th, the Social Justice Committee will be spear-heading a roadside cleanup along the one-mile stretch we have committed to care take in front of our Center. This is an especially good opportunity for new UU friends or members to volunteer their time without signing on for a larger commitment, and it provides an enjoyable way of getting to know other members better as you walk, talk, and pick up litter. The cleanup should take about an hour. The Atlantic County Utility Authority provides gloves, bags, brightly colored T-shirts and everything else you will need. (Please note: participants must be 11 years or older. Children under that age can do cleanup on our property.) **Please sign up at the Social Justice table.**

Sunday, March 21, 11:30-12:00 – Seventh Annual Peace Vigil

The Annual Peace Vigil marking the Seventh Anniversary of the Iraq War is scheduled for Sunday, March 21. The Vigil will take place from 11:30-12:00 and will be held outside on the grass at our Center. We will honor New Jersey's war dead from Iraq and Afghanistan by a solemn reading of their names. We will also have a brief poem and statement supporting peace and diplomacy, and members of our choir will lead us in peace songs. We are anticipating that many members of our congregation, both young and old, will want to attend. We'll

provide seating for those who might need it. Members of the public are also welcome and will be encouraged to attend.

Saturday, May 8 – 2nd Annual Plant Swap & Sale for Backyard Habitats

Experienced and new gardeners alike are encouraged to begin potting up some of your extra plants for our 2nd Annual Plant Swap and Sale scheduled for May 8th (assuming the snow will melt, of course!) We'll be swapping native perennials, native shrubs, and native tree seedlings, as well as non-natives that are especially beneficial to butterflies, hummingbirds, and other birds. The Global Climate Change Subcommittee is adding a new feature this year as well – we'll be growing and selling a mouth-watering variety of heirloom vegetables. We'll post the list at the SJ table to help you with your gardening planning – and dreaming.

FULL GREEN AHEAD

Buy Organic and Avoid the “Dirty Dozen” Fruits and Vegetables

Having seen *Food, Inc* and read *The Omnivore's Dilemma* in the Book Club, many of us are committed to purchasing more organic items at the grocery store. The Environmental Working Group has produced a handy guide, the *Shopper's Guide to Pesticides*, which lists 47 fruits and vegetables in highest to lowest in order of their pesticide loads. You can use the list below -- the Dirty Dozen -- to guide you when you're shopping so that you'll know which produce to buy organic, and which conventionally-grown fruits and vegetables are okay if organic isn't available. You can Sign up to download the iPhone app or a PDF version of the guide and receive the EWG newsletter at <http://www.foodnews.org>

RANK	FRUIT OR VEGGIE	SCORE
1 (worst)	Peach	100 (highest pesticide load)
2	Apple	93
3	Sweet Bell Pepper	83
4	Celery	82
5	Nectarine	81
6	Strawberries	80
7	Cherries	73
8	Kale	69
9	Lettuce	67
10	Grapes - Imported	66
11	Carrot	63
12	Pear	63



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

Minister

vacant

**Music Director &
Sunday Service Coordinator**

Barbara Miller
music@uucsjs.org

**Director of Religious Education
& Staff Coordinator**

Heidi Jansch
dre@uucsjs.org

Church Administrator

Tricia Berko
office@uucsjs.org

Newsletter

Mariann Maene
newsletter@uucsjs.org

Electronic Communications

Sharon Gray
uucsjs@yahoo.com

Board of Trustees 2009-10

Debbi Dagavarian, Ruth Eaves,
Jim Gentile, Primrose Reeves,
John Searight, Karen York, Karen Zindell



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March 2010

Visit us on the Web: www.uucsjs.org

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Congregation of the South Jersey Shore
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