

# The Chalice

September 2017

Published by the  
Unitarian Church of Sharon  
*A Welcoming Congregation  
of the Unitarian  
Universalist Association*

4 North Main Street  
Sharon, MA 02067  
781/784-3652  
[www.uusharon.org](http://www.uusharon.org)

**President**  
Tim Theiler  
[president@uusharon.org](mailto:president@uusharon.org)

**Minister**  
Rev. Wendy Bell

Office Hours  
Tue Wed Thu  
11:00am – 4:00pm  
and by appointment  
781/784-3652 x2  
[minister@uusharon.org](mailto:minister@uusharon.org)

**Director of Religious Ed.**  
Louise Marcoux

Office Hours  
Tue Wed Thu  
9:00am - 4:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am-1:00pm  
and by appointment  
781/784-3652 x3  
[DRE@uusharon.org](mailto:DRE@uusharon.org)

**Office Manager &  
Newsletter Editor**  
Linda Cveckova

Office Hours  
Mon Wed Fri  
9:30am – 1:00pm  
781/784-3652 x1  
[admin@uusharon.org](mailto:admin@uusharon.org)

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

**Friday, September 15th**  
Submit articles to  
[admin@uusharon.org](mailto:admin@uusharon.org)

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

*Childcare provided*

**September 3: “How do we remain grounded in Hope?”**  
*10:15am Service*

During the final summer service in a series exploring Values That Matter, Kathleen Guilday and Aidan Cunningham will share their thoughts on Hope.

**September 10: In Gathering and Water Communion Sunday**  
*10:15am Service*

We celebrate the beginning of a new church year with our annual inter-generational water communion service. You are invited to bring a small portion of water with you to pour into a common bowl, and to share about an important place or event from your summer. Water will also be provided. At the end of the service we will use the collected water to bless each other and our spiritual community.

**September 17: “To Trust Enough”**  
*10:00am Family Service*  
*10:30am Adult Service (while children are in their religious education classes)*

Sometimes when we are feeling vulnerable, afraid, or anxious at the beginning of a new adventure, we can feel tempted to hide or take cover to protect ourselves. How do we learn to trust enough to stay open when staying open and moving forward are what will save us?

**September 24: “Why Not Jump In?”**  
*10:00am Family Service*  
*10:30am Adult Service (while children are in their religious education classes)*

This morning we explore the themes of the Jewish High Holy Days. We will also reflect on why we sometimes hesitate to make promises. Why do we sometimes feel ambivalent about jumping into our commitments with both feet?



## *From the Minister*



Some of you I have already had the pleasure of meeting – either during my first 2 weeks as your Interim Minister in early August or at the Memorial Service for Erna Fox on August 20<sup>th</sup>. I am very much looking forward to meeting the rest of you in the coming weeks, and to working with you all in the coming year as we begin our Interim Adventure together!

On Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, we will come together as a whole community for the annual Ingathering Service and share in this congregation's traditional Water Communion ritual. As in past years, you are invited to bring with you some water from a place that is special to you...perhaps from a favorite vacation spot or swimming hole or even from your own garden or kitchen tap. While the particular source may be especially important to you, it is our connections to one another, as represented by the water, which we celebrate.

Whenever I have the opportunity to celebrate any sort of communion ritual with a new community, I like to share my own understanding of the meaning behind the ritual, including what I call the four "C's" of communion: Companion, Community, Compassion, and Commitment. All share a Latin root, "cum," which means "with."

- *Companion* means "with bread." Companions are those who have shared bread, who have shared a meal, or by extension, those who share a common ritual.
- *Community* means "unity with." Despite our sometimes careless use of the word, those truly in community are "as one." They are connected and united, even in their diversity.
- *Compassion* means "to suffer with." To feel compassion is to feel the pain another is suffering – to enter into it – to make it one's own.
- *Commitment* is the prefix "with" plus a suffix, which means "to send," "to connect," or "to entrust." To be committed to another is to be entrusted with their well-being.

Communion then, whether it involves water or bread or any other element, is a ritual in which we share in the mindfulness that we are companions – not only those within this immediate community, but also those beyond it, including those suffering from the catastrophic flooding in the Houston area. When our companions suffer, we, too, suffer, for we are community, we are one. And therefore, we are entrusted with each other's care – we must be committed to each other's well-being. We participate in communion to remember – to be mindful and to "re-member," that is, to pull back together – what has been broken apart: our connections, our community, and our commitment.

Some of you have already begun to ask how we can help our neighbors and friends in Houston. I will be checking in with Houston-area colleagues and colleagues at the UUA to find answers. Stay tuned!

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you in church...

*Rev. Wendy*

### **Rev. Wendy's Office Hours**

Beginning on September 5, I plan to be in the office on most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, typically by 11am. I can also be available on many Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. If you'd like to make an appointment, you can call or email me directly or call the main church office, and Linda can help you schedule a meeting. You can also book an appointment directly through my Calendly link: <https://calendly.com/revwendylbell> (don't forget to use my middle initial "L" when typing the link!



## From the Director of Religious Education

### When the temperature keeps rising...



It has been quite a summer. I've been blessed by encounters with love and beauty, And I've experienced a fairly unsettling level of uncertainty, concern, sadness, and grief – and encountered the same in others. It seems like everyone's on edge.

What might it be like to be a child in these tense times? Whether or not children are overhearing adult conversations about ICBMs or Nazis on parade, they are able to sense the “unsettledness” in the adults that they care about. They can feel the concern – and it doesn't feel good. So what is a parent to do?

My first suggestion comes from a really nice article I read: <https://medium.com/embrace-race/because-of-my-work-in-social-justice-equity-and-inclusion-my-people-believe-that-my-children-have-89271b11a90e> . When you are feeling unsettled, it is best to acknowledge what is going on, because your kid can tell already. Name the emotion you are experiencing and tell your child that they are safe (e.g. “Mommy is so sad, but we are ok.”).

My second suggestion comes from personal experience. Spiritual practices aren't just a nice idea; they're essential in stressful times. I recognize that most parents are lucky to find 5 free minutes in a day. I still encourage you to use 2 of those 5 minutes hearkening within. Two minutes of uninterrupted breath-focused meditation can be remarkably settling and clarifying. If meditation is not for you, perhaps keeping a gratitude journal will focus you on what gives you hope and strength. Or... there are so many spiritual practices. Now would be a good time to strike up a conversation about them and consider trying something new. I hope that everyone at church will feel free to tell one another about the things that they do to feel grounded, whole, and present. This is how we adults can continue to cultivate that “loving heart” that we talk about with our children.

I am looking forward to learning with you this year.

Blessings,

*Louise*

## New Church Staff Members

### Youth Coordinator - Chelsea Gould



The RE Committee is thrilled to introduce our new Youth Coordinator, Chelsea Gould. Chelsea is a nurse practitioner with a background in science education. She has worked with youth and young adults for close to a decade as a high school teacher and education program coordinator in various settings, including a zoo.

Members of Chelsea's family introduced her to Unitarian Universalism as an adult. The values of inclusiveness, commitment to social justice, and encouragement of thoughtful exploration of theology and spirituality have particular resonance with her. Don't be surprised if she looks familiar; she has been attending services at our church for nearly a year.

Chelsea lives in Sharon with her partner Dylan, toddler Wyeth, and three cats. She loves coffee, reading, gardening, and discovering new podcasts. She is honored to be entrusted with the responsibility of support and leadership for our senior youth, and she is very excited to see what projects the group chooses to focus their energy on!

### Office Manager - Linda Cveckova



Please join me in welcoming the new UU Sharon Office Manager, Linda Cveckova. Linda has started on August 1st and will generally be in the office on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. Linda has strong project management, business operations and financial analyst skills. She has also been a volunteer in Sharon at the Cottage Street School, the Sharon Cooperative School and a local political campaign manager. Linda has her MA in Industrial and Organizational Psychology and her BS in International Business and Finance. Linda and her husband live in Sharon with their three children.

I want to thank Marcia Tranavitch and Jeff Rose who worked with me to interview 6 of the 30 applicants we had for this position!

Sincerely,  
Susan Drisko  
Vice President, UU Sharon Board

## *From the President*

### **Girls to Women**

As we passed around the microphone during a recent Meeting House sharing about peace and conflict resolution, the discussion turned toward how to engage people who seem intolerant, bigoted or just plain mean. Even in this crowd of mostly adults, I was not surprised when my 12 year old daughter, Daphne, threw me an elbow and said, "Dad, I have something to say."

As she stood with confidence and shared her view, that most people never really consider the backstory of Elphaba, the Wicked Witch from Wizard of Oz, it occurred to me that I didn't even know that the witch had a name. Well, I didn't ever really bother to ask. My daughter humanized a witch. By our children we are taught.

I am always impressed but not surprised by how much we value and include our children in our Unitarian community. I will admit that I am girl centric but it is true for all of our youth. Like many families, we joined a church to find a spiritual community for ourselves and our children.

Finding the Unitarian Church was easy enough. It was a big white building right in the middle of town. It seemed as good as any other. I admit that I attended rather grudgingly at first, hoping that it wasn't too "churchy". When the girls were invited to Religious Education classes, we agreed and they went. We stayed for a remarkable sermon, music and fellowship and immediately agreed that we had found our church.

As the girls continued to attend RE through the years, they emerged with stories of lessons about empathy, self-worth, love, family and tolerance. They enjoyed their new place in the church and it built upon the values we taught them at home. And we are often reminded of their UU values. I recently came across a poem that Jenny, my ten year old, wrote about race relations a couple of years ago. She wrote, "When we separated people by their skin, we didn't think about the feeling within."

When they joined the choir in 2010 and were asked to sing or speak in front of the congregation, they felt welcomed and appreciated. The next time they stand up in front of one hundred people, well, it will be far from the first. The interactions they have with the adults in the community are appropriate and respectful and their voices really matter.

I am grateful for our community and the confidence it inspires in our daughters. As we raise our girls to women in our UCS community, I like to say that the men who work for them someday will have great confidence in their leadership.

*Tim Theiler*

### **65th Annual Bean Supper Saturday, September 9th**



Our annual Bean Supper takes place on Saturday, September 9, 2017 from 5:00PM to 7:00PM. To be held outdoors on the church lawn, indoors if it is raining. POT LUCK STYLE---Serving a variety of Bean Dishes prepared at home, Fresh Garden Salad prepared at home, Homemade Breads, Hot Dogs on the grill, Brownies topped with ice cream for dessert, Lemonade,..... You should have received a Sign Up Genius email for food/supply donations and work assignments. If you have not, contact Ken at [zaniew@verizon.net](mailto:zaniew@verizon.net)

### **Caring Committee Update**

Our Unitarian Church of Sharon community has experienced some losses this August and we extend our sympathy to

- + John Schumacher's brother,
- + Kathy Roth-Huse's mother,
- + Lorraine, and Erna Fox, wife of long time member Bill Fox.

The Caring Committee of the UCS, working closely with the minister, exists to provide thoughtful attention and assistance to our members and friends with the understanding that we all need support at times in our lives. Committee members are Joyce Bramhall and Ivy Krull, co-chairs, Nina Lynch, Jean Zanewski, Evelynne Swagerty, Pat McDougal and Rumni Saha. Please contact us with any concerns or needs, it takes a village.



## Religious Education News

### Register NOW for Religious Education (RE)!

Religious education classes start on Sunday, September 17.

Our action-packed 2017-18 program includes the Sunday morning RE program, Our Whole Lives 1-2, Coming of Age (grades 8-9), Junior Youth Fellowship Group (grades 6-7-8), and Senior Youth Group (grades 9-12).

We ask that all families register their children ages 6 months to 18 years. Registration provides us with important information about allergies, learning styles, etc. so that we can welcome every child safely. Registration also includes two parental permission forms: for photographs and walking field trips. Please let us know about your family's needs.

You can register online on the church website at [http://www.uusharon.org/religious\\_education/registration/](http://www.uusharon.org/religious_education/registration/). Or you can complete a paper registration form (in the literature rack outside the RE Office downstairs or on the RE bulletin board in the vestry) and turn it in, with your check, to the RE Office (open 9/10) downstairs OR the Admin Office upstairs.

Family registration fee: \$40 for one child, \$60 for two or more children. Registration scholarships are available. Please see Rev. Wendy Bell, Louise Marcoux, or Lilly Zhou for details.

### Important Dates for RE Volunteers

All volunteers who work with children and youth take part in **Orientation** and then plan out the year with fellow volunteers at **Team Planning Meetings**.

To start off the year right, the congregation and teachers make formal promises to one another at the **Installation of RE Volunteers**.

#### Orientation

**for teachers (Gr 1-8):** Thurs, Aug 31, 7-8:45 pm

**PreK-K Orientation:** Sat, Sept 2, 1-3:30 **OR**  
Sun, Sept 10, 5:30-8 pm **OR**  
Thu, Sept 14, 7-9:30 pm

**Grades 1-2 Team:** Sun, Sept 17, 12:10-2:40 pm

**Grades 3-4 Team:** Thu, Sept 7, 7-9 pm

**Grades 5-6 Team:** Tue, Sept 5, 7-9 pm

**Junior Youth Team:** Wed, Sept 6, 7-9 pm

#### Installation of RE

**Volunteers:** Sun, Sept 17, 10 am

### September in RE

Our Religious Education department welcomes new and returning students to classes beginning September 17th. The children will commence the year by making nametags, discussing class covenants, and enjoying some getting to know you activities.

The **Preschool-Kindergarten** class will begin the *Celebrating Me and My World* curriculum with lessons that emphasize the fact that every child is special, and how we use our hands for learning. They'll hear stories, sing, and do some painting.

The **Grade 1-2** group will be exploring the *Creating Home* curriculum which includes introducing the students to using a sundial. They will decorate their classroom threshold as they talk about the importance of the thresholds we cross into our homes and how they relate to our journeys.

The **Grade 3-4** students will be introduced to the seven sources of Unitarian Universalism as they begin the *Love Will Guide Us* curriculum. The class will explore the idea that love is an unseen guiding force in the universe, and hear a story about "The Everything Seed."

The **Grade 5-6** class will explore the concept of a covenant and what it means to their group as they dive into the *Love Connects Us* curriculum. The class will create a rainbow wall hanging to be used throughout the year.

The **Grade 7-8/Junior Youth** group will begin the year with curriculum from *Compass Points*. They will examine the value and responsibilities of friendship, and discuss the roles that change and transition play in our lives.

Parents please check your email for weekly updates about RE happenings.



2016/17 Preschool-Kindergarten Class

## Religious Education News, Continued

### Youth Groups

Our Senior Youth and Junior Youth Fellowship groups will be gearing up for a fun-filled year focused on community, growth, empowerment, and spiritual practice. The new Youth Coordinator, Chelsea Gould, is looking forward to getting to know youth and their families and to co-creating our programming with youth leaders.

Upcoming Important Dates:

#### Meet Chelsea!

At Coffee Hour on Sunday September 10th (11:45am) come say hello to our new Youth Coordinator, Chelsea Gould.



#### Senior Youth Group

First meeting will be Sunday Sept 17th 5-7pm downstairs in the Vestry. Senior Youth Group is open to any and all individuals in grades 9 - 12 and folks are encouraged to bring friends! We'll start the year re-connecting and catching up and begin the process of getting acquainted with new folks, as well as start talking about our hopes and goals for the year.

#### Junior Youth Fellowship Group

September meeting date is currently being determined via Doodle poll, if you have not yet completed the poll please do so. If you have not received information about scheduling or would like more information about Junior Youth Fellowship please email Chelsea at [yc@uusharon.org](mailto:yc@uusharon.org), the group is open to all youth in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th. At our first meeting we will play some group games and plan out activities for the year - start thinking of things you'd like to do!

### Photographs at church

Occasionally we take photographs of the great things happening at church. These photos are sometimes posted on church bulletin boards or on the church web site. Some things to be aware of before posting pictures of children or youth:

- **Parental permission is required** in order for the photo of a child or youth to be posted on a bulletin board or on the church web site.
- Parents communicate whether they give or withhold this permission by checking a box on their religious education registration form.
- The DRE holds the list of photo permissions. If you want to post a photo of a child or youth, please show it to Louise first.
- The church will not post children's names with their photographs.



### Fairy Houses for Grades 3-4

Now is the time to start collecting materials for Fairy Houses. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grader is encouraged to start collecting pebbles, twigs, moss, bark, seeds, shells, dried grasses



Three fairy houses made at church 2 years ago.

### Snacks with Wendy



What our UU kids may be wondering about:

“What will our new minister be like?”  
“What does an interim minister do?”

Children and youth are invited to have a snack with our interim minister, Wendy Bell, on Sunday, September 17, at 11:45 am. Come empty-handed to Program A/B and enjoy the spread of snacks. Bring your curiosity and find out whether Rev. Wendy has pets, whether her favorite color is the same as yours, etc.

and other natural objects for our upcoming fairy house building session this fall. Parents should watch their email to learn when it's time for the children to bring their shoebox of construction materials to church.

## September Programs

### Music and Arts

**Adult Choir** – Meets Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm and Sunday mornings before service. New voices always welcome.



**Art from the Heart** - Meets September 22, at 7pm, in the vestry. Please join us for our first meeting which will be a *planning* session. Bring your creative ideas and expertise along with a snack to share. Art from the Heart is an evening of play, fun, creativity, and community. We will provide for you a variety of artistic media under the guidance of Jean Fox. This is art without right or wrong, good or bad, better worse—rather it is art for everyone to enjoy. Hope to see you there!

### Children's Choir

We love to hear our children singing! Children's choir welcomes all. Meets Tuesdays 5:30 to 6:30pm in the vestry. Pizza included. Performing in church twice a month. Pool Party September 12<sup>th</sup>. Regular rehearsals start September 17th. Please contact Forbesy at [forbesyrussell@hotmail.com](mailto:forbesyrussell@hotmail.com) or 781-201-9533.



**Art Wall** seeks artists of all ages. Including new features: Children's Corner and Art from the Heart display. Please contact Forbesy at [forbesyrussell@hotmail.com](mailto:forbesyrussell@hotmail.com) or 781-201-9533.

**MMAS Theatre Group** - The first theatre night of the season at Mansfield Music and Arts Society is *Out of Order*; a hilarious Ray Cooney farce which won the Olivier Award for Best Comedy of the Year in 1991 on Saturday, Sept. 23. Our private make-our-own-pot-luck reception starts at 7:00pm and the show starts at 8:00pm. Please contact Pat McDougal at [mcdougal.pat@gmail.com](mailto:mcdougal.pat@gmail.com) to sign up or for more information. It's a fun way to socialize and enjoy top quality community theater. New members and invited and encouraged to attend. Please mark your calendar. This is the list of performances for the year.

Out of Order	9/23/17
You're a Good Man Charlie Brown	11/4/17
Driving Miss Daisy	12/9/17
Of Mice and Men	2/3/18
The Tempest	3/24/18
Hair	4/28/18

### Not Just Another Coffee House

#### *Cardboard Ox*

**Saturday, September 16, 7pm**  
(doors open at 6:30pm)



Tracie Potochnik and Steve Allain joined forces in 2014 to form Cardboard Ox. The duo is known for sweet and soulful harmonies, thoughtful musicianship, and delicately crafted lyrical storytelling. Cardboard Ox has performed at venues throughout New England including the main stage at The Providence Folk Festival and the legendary Club Passim, and has opened for acts including Cheryl Wheeler and Marc Douglas Berardo. The duo has also been nominated for Limelight and Motif Magazine awards. [www.cardboardoxmusic.com](http://www.cardboardoxmusic.com)

During intermission enjoy our home made desserts and fair trade beverages.

(Continued on page 8)



## September Programs, continued

### Interest and Discussion Groups

**Book Group** – Our monthly Book Group meets at 7:30pm on the first Wednesday of each month, in the church library. Everyone is welcome to join us, whether or not you've finished (or read!) the book. We are going to skip September and will meet again on October 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss *The Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly. The lives of two women who find themselves at Ravensbrück, the notorious Nazi concentration camp for women eventually intersect with a third, half a world away, who helps to bring justice to those whom history has forgotten. Our November 1st "read" will be Elizabeth Strout's *My Name is Lucy Barton*.



#### Conversations at the Meetinghouse

**Save the Date**  
**October 6th, 7pm**

NEADS (National Education for Assistance Dog Services) Service Dog Program.

There is no event in September.

**Covenant Sharing Groups** – There is no meeting on the first Sunday of the month due to Labor Day. We will reconvene our first meeting of the year on the third Sunday, September 17th. Covenant groups are small groups (between 8 and 12 members) who discuss core spiritual and ethical themes, using specific guidelines for sharing which ensure that the experience is safe for everyone involved.

**Journey Group** - An evening of meditation, chanting, sharing and reading/discussion of spiritually related materials. The meetings are facilitated by Barbara Nelkin-Rose and are scheduled for select Monday evenings in the Minister's Study. The next meeting will be Monday, September 19th from 7:30-9:00PM. All are welcome. Please contact Barbara to RSVP or to receive more information.

**Let's Laugh Today** – Saturday, September 16, 11am to noon. Beginning in October the group meets on the second Sunday of the month. Enjoy this unique exercise of simulated laughter combined with gentle breathing that brings more oxygen to the body's cells. Any age and any level of physical ability can participate in this uplifting experience! Led by Certified Laughter Yoga Teachers, Linda and Bill Hamaker. Please bring your water bottle and at least one canned good for the Sharon/Stoughton Food Pantry. New laughers are always welcomed! See [www.letslaughtoday.com](http://www.letslaughtoday.com) for more information.



**Meditation Group**—Join our circle of mindfulness meditation on Tuesday evenings at church at 7.30 PM, beginning September 12. Return as your schedule permits if you have been a part of the circle over the past few years. If you have not experienced the quieting of your mind, we encourage you to join us. For one hour we practice both sitting and walking meditation. Sometimes we lay out a special canvas labyrinth produced by one of our own youth groups. If you have questions, please arrive at 7.15 PM or contact Ray Wallace or Susan Allison.

**Writer's Group** – Meets on second Sunday of the month, at 12noon to 1pm, in the church library. Come share a poem or prose piece you have written with a supportive and interesting group. Or just come along to enjoy to writings and the conversations.

#### Movie Night

##### **Hidden Figures**

Meets the second Friday of the month at 7PM. On Friday September 8, we will view and discuss the Oscar nominated film, *Hidden Figures*. The film is about three African American women who worked at NASA. Popcorn is free!



### Support Groups

**Al-Anon Meeting** - An 11th step Al-Anon group meets at UCS each Sunday evening at 7pm. It is an open meeting.

**Men's Support Group** - Meets on Thursdays, September 14 and 28, at 8pm in the church library. New men are always welcome to join.

**The Reiki Support group** will meet on September 17, 3-5pm. This is a closed group. Please see Laurie Wallace, if you have questions.

**Women's Support Group** – Meets on Thursdays, September 14 and 28, 7:30pm in the minister's study. New women are always welcome to join.



## SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATES



**Hate Has No Home Here:** Following the events in Charlottesville, VA and in light of the anticipated August 20th “Free Speech” rally and counter-protests in Boston, the Social Justice Committee collaborated with Sharon Interfaith Action, Sharon Interfaith Clergy Association, and RISE Sharon to sponsor **Hate Has No Home Here: Sharon Stands Against Hatred** on Tuesday, August 15 from 4-6 PM. which started on our church steps and grounds with speakers from 4-4:30 PM, followed by a vigil on the four corners. Although originally planned as a silent vigil, Rabbi Randi Kafka addressed the group, suggesting

that this is a time when people need to talk and connect with one another. She therefore encouraged participants to meet and talk with someone new as we held signs with peaceful messages of protest. Although the event was planned only the day before, over 130 people of all ages attended, and many more honked and waved their support.

**Summer Meetings and Making Lunches:** The Social Justice Committee (SJC) continued monthly meetings during the summer. We scheduled a “before church” meeting time at 8:30 a.m. on July 23 and decided to try that again on August 20. We scheduled our monthly Mainspring House lunch-making after the services on those same Sundays. Our next meeting date will be listed in the Orders of Service in September. All members of the church community are welcome to attend SJC meetings.

**Brown Envelope Update:** Brown Envelope (BE) funds collected during the summer services (late June – Labor Day Weekend) will go to the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry’s 2018 summer youth programs. Last summer’s BE collections helped fund this summer’s programs. September funds (beginning September 10th) will support our Partner Church in Gyulakuta, Romania, specifically for subscriptions to the European Unitarian magazine to help members connect to other UUs, for an organist to play at one Sunday service each month, and to continue to pay the tuition for one student’s high school education.

### Sharon Interfaith Action - Putting our Faith into

**Action:** Several UCS members participated in a recent four-workshop training for Community Organizing sponsored by Sharon Interfaith Action and Brockton Interfaith Committee. The training focused on skill-building from the Mission Statement: *Our faith traditions call us to love our neighbors and to work for justice. We therefore seek to reach across suburban/urban, racial, and class divides to develop relationships with and support the efforts of those people most directly impacted by injustice.* The workshops included training in the Four I's of Oppression (Ideological, Interpersonal, Institutional and Internalized). Major emphasis was focused on Power in Relationship, using the framework of 1 to 1, Choosing Issues, Researching



**August 15, 2017 - Hate Has No Home Here inter faith gathering in front of the Unitarian Church of Sharon**



**August 15, 2017 - A participant in the Hate Has No Home vigil in front of the Unitarian Church of Sharon**

(Continued on page 10)

## ***SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATES***

### ***Continued***

*(Continued from page 9)*

Action, Action and Follow-up and Evaluation. This framework is the basis of the long term training. Participants were asked to commit to year-long training. The same training will be taking place in Brockton concurrently. The goal will be to bring the Sharon group together with the Brockton group to use Community Organizing to identify and work on issues important to the people of Brockton. UCS will have a core group going through the training. For information on this work, contact Elizabeth Siftar, [esiftar@gmail.com](mailto:esiftar@gmail.com); Cammy Rodriguez, [rodri-guez\\_camelia@hotmail.com](mailto:rodri-guez_camelia@hotmail.com); or Linda Finger-son, [slypper@gmail.com](mailto:slypper@gmail.com).

**Social Justice Corner in the Vestry after Sunday services:** You can buy **Equal Exchange** fair trade coffees, chocolates and other items, as well **Shopping for Justice** supermarket gift cards in various denominations for Shaws, Stop & Shop, and Big Y (+/- 5% of the value stays with the church to help fund our social justice projects in support of people who experience food and housing insecurity).

**Nicaragua Service Trip for Adults** – We are renewing our efforts to plan a trip for 2018. The first step is to imagine yourself spending a week, probably in the summer, working with FNE international ([fneinternational.org](http://fneinternational.org)) on house construction and other activities, working together with the people of Chacraseca (a large rural community near the city of Leon). Next step – email or speak to Janet Schmidt ([jcscoch@gmail.com](mailto:jcscoch@gmail.com)). Watch this space for notice of a meeting in October.

### **UUA Hurricane Harvey Recovery Fund**

On Friday, August 25, Hurricane Harvey made landfall as a Category 4 Storm and brought with it deadly winds and rain to an area of the United States millions call home. We're holding all of those affected in our hearts and prayers and we are in touch with local Unitarian Universalists so we can meet the needs as they arise. To do this, The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has joined with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) on a recovery and relief fund.



To give, please follow the link below: <https://giving.uua.org/harvey-floods>



### **Limited Parking September 17th**

On Sunday, September 17 from 9am the public parking lot on High Street is not going to be accessible. If you need to park and our own parking lot is already full, you can use the parking lot behind the stores on Billings St or parking spaces on High St and Main St.

### **Circle Supper/ Family Brunch Sign-Up**

Church members and friends who want to participate in Circle Suppers in 2017 and 2018 should **sign up by Sunday, September 24, 2017** by contacting Allison Jones and Jack Gregory. Dates this season for Circle Suppers are October 14, November 11, January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, and May 12.

Families with children can also chose to sign up for Family Brunches, which will be held mid-day on the third Saturday of the month. Participants who do not have children also are welcome. Dates this season for Family Brunches are Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 17, April 21, May 19.

Adult Circle Suppers and Family Brunches are potluck meals held in the homes of members and friends of the church. Organizers will designate hosts and guests. Hosts provide the main course. Circle Supper guests bring appetizers, desserts and salads; Brunch guests bring child-friendly brunch foods.

If you are unsure of your schedule or unable to host, you may also sign up as an alternate and be invited by a host on short notice. Newcomers welcome!

The schedule for the fall will be issued at the beginning of October. In December, we will ask for any changes needed in the schedule for 2018. A list of locations and guests for 2018 will be published in January. Participants can commit to a dinner or brunch every month, or just an occasional month, depending on your schedule.

Please provide the following information: Name(s), telephone number, email address, street address. Also, let us know the number of people in your household who will participate (used for counting guests) and the number of people you can accommodate for a meal (not including the hosts). Let us know which months you will participate or if you want to be an alternate.

Call or email this information to Allison Jones and Jack Gregory by September 24.

## September 2017 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px;">           Please go to <a href="http://www.uusharon.org/calendars">www.uusharon.org/calendars</a> to reserve meeting space or to view the most up to date calendar.         </div>					1 ESL 3pm	2 Teaching Team Meeting (Pre-K and K) 1pm
3 Worship Service 10:15am Al-Anon Meeting 7pm	4 Women's Group I (Closed Grp) 7:30pm	5 Teaching Team Meeting (Gr 5-6) 7pm	6 Teaching Team Meeting (Jr Youth) 7pm Sustainable Sharon Coalition board meeting 7pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Book Group 7:30pm	7 ESL 6pm Teaching Team Meeting (Gr 3-4) 7pm	8 ESL 3pm Movie Night 7pm	9 Bean Supper 5pm Committee Chairs 9am Sustainable Sharon Coalition – SJC 7pm
10 Worship Service 10:15am Teaching Team Meeting (Pre-K and K) 5:30pm Al-Anon Meeting 7pm Covenant Sharing Group 7pm	11 Journey Group 7:30pm	12 Children's Choir 5:30pm	13 Board of Trustees 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	14 Teaching Team Meeting (Pre-K and K) 7pm Second Women's Group 7:00pm Men's Support Group 8pm	15 ESL 3pm	16 Let's Laugh Today – Noon Coffee House 7pm
17 Family Worship Service 10am Worship Service 10:30am Religious Education Classes 10:30am Snacks with Rev. Wendy 11:45am Teaching Team Meeting (Gr 1-2) 12:10pm Senior Youth Group 5pm Al-Anon Meeting 7pm Covenant Sharing Group 7pm	18 Women's Group I (Closed Grp) 7:30pm	19 Children's Choir 5:30pm	20 Caring Committee 7pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	21	22 ESL 3pm Art in the Heart 7pm	23
24 Family Worship Service 10am Worship Service 10:30am Religious Education Classes 10:30am Senior Youth Group 5pm Al-Anon Meeting 7pm Covenant Sharing Group 7pm	25 Journey Group 7:30pm	26 Children's Choir 5:30pm GRASP Support Group 7pm Coming of Age Mentor Orientation 7:30pm	27 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	28 Second Women's Group 7:00pm Men's Support Group 8pm	29 ESL 3pm	30





Mailing  
Label  
Goes  
Here

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UNITARIAN CHURCH  
OF SHARON  
4 NORTH MAIN STREET  
SHARON, MA 02067



*A Welcoming  
Congregation of  
the UUA*

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT  
WORSHIP AND ACTIVITIES  
CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT

**781/784-3652**

SEND AN EMAIL TO

**ADMIN@UUSHARON.ORG**

OR VISIT US ON THE WEB AT

**[www.uusharon.org](http://www.uusharon.org)**