



Published by the
Unitarian Church of Sharon
**A Welcoming Congregation
of the Unitarian
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JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Friday, June 21

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JUNE WORSHIP SERVICES

10:00 am Family Service
10:30 am Adult Service
(Unless noted otherwise)

Sunday June 2: Rainbow Sunday

This Sunday is our annual celebration of diversity and love. Please wear a shirt or blouse with a color of the rainbow for our annual UCS rainbow photo (taken after the 10:30 service).

Sunday June 9: The Care and Feeding of Ministers

This morning, as we look ahead to the ending of the interim ministry period, we'll reflect on ways to get off to a good start with a new minister.

Sunday June 16: End of the Year Celebration

10:15am Service only (No RE classes)

This morning, we celebrate the end of another church year and the end of the interim ministry period. We say goodbye and offer one another blessings for the journey ahead.

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES

June 23 - September 1
10:15 am (one service only)

Theme for the summer worship services is: **Defining One's Purpose**. Summer services are lay-led services which include a time of congregational sharing followed by a time of fellowship afterwards. Our Music Director, Mel Springer is providing the music for the services. Please note childcare is not available. The schedule of speakers and their topics can be found here once available: <https://www.uusharon.org/worship/services/>

The Worship Committee invites lay speakers to participate during the summer services as we share and explore the topic of "Defining One's Purpose".

One's purpose is not always synonymous with vocation, but rather begins with an inward journey of self-reflection. How do you answer the following questions?

1. What motivates you upon waking in the morning?
2. What propels you throughout your day?
3. What is your passion?
4. How do you make a difference in other people's lives or in the world?

The answer to these questions is what defines you; this is your purpose.

Typically, there are two speakers each Sunday, sharing for ten minutes each. Please contact Meg Dussault or Jean Fox for sign-ups. (Deadline: June 20th)

From the Minister



We are nearing the end of the interim time, and so it is a good month to celebrate accomplishments, offer gratitude to one another, and begin to say our goodbyes. But I'm not gone yet! I will be with you through the months of June and July. Rev. Jolie will formally begin her ministry with you on August 1st. She and I will be meeting and talking during the month of June so that I can help to orient her and answer whatever questions she might have.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to be in touch if there's anything about which you'd like to talk to a minister. I'll continue to be in the office on most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays through mid-June and available by appointment during the second half of June and through most of July.

Thank you again for the opportunity to walk with you during this two-year interim journey! You are a remarkable congregation and together I know you will continue to do much good in the world! As John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, once famously said, may you...

...Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as you every can.

That seems to me like a wonderful and appropriate benediction! See you in church!

Rev. Wendy

ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH, 7PM

Please attend and help us elect members to a variety of positions and to approve our annual budget. A quorum of at least 20% of members of record is required to approve all articles. The Warrant and the Annual Report will be sent to you in an email shortly.

Ministerial Search Committee Update

Goodbye from the Search Committee

We are thrilled that we are calling Rev. Jolie Olivetti as our settled minister. She will begin her full-time ministry on August 1st. Our next big challenge is to say goodbye and thank you to our interim minister Wendy Bell. Transition planning will take place with Wendy both within the congregation and in interfaith activities in the town. All of us on the Search Committee would like to say thank you to the congregation for all of your support and the many messages of gratitude. The search process has been a pleasurable and educational experience...and now we are done. Looking forward to seeing you all at church!

The Search Committee: *Laurie Wallace, Beth McGregor, Tom D'Avanzo, Linda Godfrey-Bailey, Dave Slater, Valerie White, Karen Zelevinsky*

Rev. Joanna (Jolie) Olivetti to be our next minister

At a special congregational meeting on May 5th, the congregation voted to adopt the recommendation of the Ministerial Search Committee and call the Rev. Joanna (Jolie) Olivetti to be our next minister.



Jolie is currently an interfaith chaplain at Brigham and Women's Hospital and has a strong background in social justice work. To read more about her, see <http://www.uuministry.com/jolieolivetti/> She will begin her tenure on August 1st; until then the Rev. Wendy Bell will continue to serve as our interim minister.

We are grateful to the Search Committee for their diligent work over the past two years: Tom D'Avanzo, Linda Godfrey-Bailey, Beth McGregor (chair), Laurie Wallace, Valerie White and Karen Zelevinsky.

From the President



The rainy spring is almost over and our church year is winding its way to summer. We have much left to do in June; congratulating our graduating seniors, finishing the religious education year, saying thank you to our interim minister, planning our

summer services, finalizing our 2019-2020 budget and holding our annual meeting. There is certainly more that I haven't mentioned.

I am thrilled that we have called a settled minister, Jolie Olivetti. 122 members out of 172 attended the meeting (71%), with 121 voting to call the new minister and one abstention (99% in favor). She will start her time with us on August 1st. This will be another transition for us! Jolie has already begun to identify members for a Committee on Ministry to assist her in her work.

There were some questions about the public vote to call the minister. When I sought more information about this after the vote, I asked a church historian, Colleen Tuck, for more information. Colleen noted that our New England town meeting protocols grew out of the traditional meetings of the early Protestant churches; the churches and government were the same. Our original church was the town's meeting house and our congregational rules are very close to those of the town. Virtually all votes are by voice and the moderator calls the vote. The Board had decided to hand out cards to members, who are the only ones allowed to vote and to count the number of votes by counting the cards. While it has not happened in Colleen's memory at the church, a member can request a secret ballot and if seconded and a majority agrees to the motion – a secret ballot can commence (and in this case the index cards could have been used to vote "yes" or "no", been collected and tabulated). I was not aware of this, and probably most of you weren't either. Lesson learned, we will be clearer on the process and now you all know that you can call for a secret ballot, if you like!

For those who have volunteered this year to be a religious education teacher, to work on a Committee or Task Force – THANK YOU. Your effort supports our church community and makes it possible to live our mission to:

"... gather as a liberal religious community, honoring our differences, to support one another as we grow

in mind and spirit and reach out to serve the world."

As we head into the new year, I ask each of you to consider volunteering to be on a Committee, a Task Force or as an RE Teacher in the coming year. We have many volunteers, often the same people taking on multiple roles. This allows for historic memory and has ensured our good work. I believe we need to add new people to this important work! Both for new ideas and energy and to ensure we don't exhaust those who are currently doing the work. If you aren't sure where to best place your time and talent, talk with an existing Committee member or someone on the Board about your interests.

I am particularly concerned with growing our ability to welcome new members, enhancing our sense of purpose, social justice and belonging to something important. I am also concerned that we cannot sustain our church financially on annual pledges alone (as I write, our budget will spend over \$10,000 more than we have raised – yikes). We need a group of people to help us think about and create other significant fundraising activity. By sustaining and growing our membership and increasing fundraising we can finance our church without a deficit. Please contact me if you are interested in being part of a task force to take on a fundraising initiative at president@uusharon.org. Thank you.

Our Annual meeting is Friday, June 14th at 7:00 pm. Please attend and help us elect members to a variety of positions and to approve our annual budget.

Susan Olson Drisko
President

Father's Day Picnic - June 16th

Join the fun and enjoy good eats after the Sunday worship service at our traditional picnic on the church lawn. June 16th will also be the last service of our Interim Minister Wendy Bell and we will have an opportunity to say goodbye.

The men will fire up the grilles and provide hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, sausages. Bring something to share: salads, chips, desserts, beverages. Hope to see you there.
Rory McGregor: 508-400-4719



Building Bridges across our neighbor UU congregations

Creating Connections, Nurturing Relationships, and Inspiring Action in Southeastern MA and RI

On Sunday mornings, chalices are lit in over two dozen churches from Canton, to Taunton, to Newport, and many others in between. Sometimes, though, the hustle and bustle of our own church lives and secular lives make the distance between us grow, and it's difficult to connect.

"Building Bridges" was inspired by this recognition, and works to build connections between the numerous church communities in SE MA and RI. Building Bridges celebrates and encourages relationship-building, resource-sharing, and between Southeastern MA and RI churches.

- A fall adult RE program on three consecutive Sundays open to all regional churches (may be extended to winter/spring depending on interest)
- A kickball event following the third Sunday RE program
- A Building Bridges Facebook page, which will serve as a platform to communicate events, share happenings for churches in the region, and encourage participation

To kickstart the initiative, churches in the region are invited to the inaugural Building Bridges Conference this summer. The conference aims to create a memorable meeting place for UU churches in Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island where we can begin closing the distance, bond in our shared faith and interests, brainstorm collaborations, or simply reflect and recharge with one another. **This all-inclusive conference will take place on Star Island, and attendees of every age can choose between a 3- or 7-day stay, from July 11-13, or 20.** Most of the Building Bridges programming will take place over the first three days, and includes morning workshops around articulating UU faith, swimming and water activities, games, island-wandering, and evening chapel. Special rates are available to those new to Star Island, so this is a great opportunity to join your South-eastern NE neighbors for this inaugural regional conference!

If you are interested in knowing more, we would love to reach out to you! McKayla Hoffman, a member of

First Parish in Bridgewater and an aspirant for our UU ministry, is available to visit your congregation and share more about Building Bridges. They can offer to lead a worship service about the program, join your congregation for coffee hour, and/or attend committee meetings.

For more information, please visit <https://starweek.com/building-bridges-conference/>. Please feel free to reach out to April Rosario (First Parish Taunton DRE, Building Bridges Registrar, april.rose78@yahoo.com) or McKayla Hoffman (First Parish Bridgewater, Building Bridges Outreach Intern, mckayhoffman@gmail.com) with any questions.

Submitted by Beth McGregor

Who Is Allowed to Teach RE?

Some people think that you have to be a parent to teach RE, but at UCS we affirm that we all can learn from one another. Here's a list of things that you DON'T have to be to teach RE.

NOT REQUIRED:

1. adult
2. parent
3. life-long UU
4. professional educator
5. great artist
6. theologian
7. martyr
8. saint

Our message to you is "Come, come, *whoever* you are, ... come, yet again come." We want YOU. Here's what we're looking for.

REQUIRED:

1. Sense of humor
2. Curiosity
3. Commitment to this community.

Recognize yourself? Please talk with Rumni Saha or Louise Marcoux about what experiences might await you as an RE volunteer. Or sign up in the vestry during coffee hour.

Religious Education News

From the Director of Religious Education

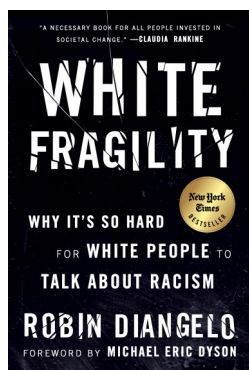
When someone calls you a racist...

Did your heart just skip a beat reading my title? Mine did. The word "racist" conjures images of white hoods, burning crosses, and swastikas – or rageful white people shouting epithets at a young African-American girl who is on her way to her first day at a formerly all-white school. How could I, someone who tries to be kind and fair to all, be lumped in with those mean-spirited people?



This is exactly the conversation that I saw play out in local social media this past week. Someone brought up the issue of the racism encountered by People of Color in Sharon. And the conversation was almost immediately shut down by people who were completely offended because someone was calling someone racist. It was a textbook example of what Robin DiAngelo describes in her book, *White Fragility: why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism*. Bring up the topic of racism and very quickly, someone in the group will feel accused of being a complete moral failure. And the conversation stops. And bad things continue to happen to POC in the community. But white people can't talk about it. We are stuck in white fragility.

But we don't have to be. Please add *White Fragility* to your summer reading list. Please read it and talk about it with friends and think about how you might disrupt the patterns of white fragility in the communications that are happening all around you. Because we don't have to be stuck. It isn't even about whether we are complete moral failures. It's about real suffering that happens in our communities every day and what keeps us from doing anything about it. With an open mind and a loving heart, we can breathe our way through those skipped heartbeats and find new ways to understand the ways in which racism replicates itself in every aspect of American society.



Blessings,

Louise

June in RE

June will see only two weeks of Religious Education classes before we break for the summer months.

The **Preschool-Kindergarten** children will continue to join the group in the nursery where they will be engaged with stories, puzzles, playdoh and games.

The **Grades 1 through 6** students will be teaming up for the last two RE sessions. The group will participate in a Rainbow Sunday lesson which focuses on being welcoming. They will also take a field trip to an animal shelter to learn about the work the shelter does and deliver gifts made in RE for the animals.

The **Grade 7-8** class will complete their OWL curriculum with sessions about sexuality and our faith, and self-care, celebration and closure.

Karen MacKinnon, Administrative Assistant

It's June! Time to save \$10!

It's true. If you register your children for RE before June 30, UCS will knock \$10 off the fee. Besides saving money, you do the following by registering in the spring:

1. Let us know if your child has allergies or other special needs so that we can make RE a safer place for everyone.
2. Help us know how many children we'll be welcoming in each classroom.
3. Let us know if we can take your child outside on short walks during RE.
4. Let us know if it's okay for your child's image to be posted on the church web page.
5. Give us the time to make curriculum decisions, organize classrooms, and gather materials so that we are ready to go in September.

Registration can be done online or via paper forms. Cost is \$40 for one child, \$60 for two or more (before the discount). Children ages 0-18 should be registered. If your high school student volunteers in RE, their fee is waived. Scholarships are available: please contact Andrea Pannone, Louise Marcoux, or the Rev. Wendy Bell in order to request a scholarship. Any questions about registration can be directed to Louise Marcoux (dre@uusharon.org).



Religious Education News, continued

YOUTH GROUPS

Senior Youth Group

Meets on Sundays from 5-7pm in the Vestry. Senior Youth Group is open to any and all individuals in grades 9 - 12 and folks are encouraged to bring friends!

Members of our Senior and Junior youth groups served a lunchtime meal to patrons of Rosie's Place, a shelter for homeless women, on Sunday May 19th. The meal was sponsored by Senior Youth Group who raised funding for this outreach through the PanWaff Breakfast. Thank you to all who joined us and donated to this cause, it has been an annual event for SYG.

June will be our last month of regular meetings for the 2018-19 Youth Group year. We will be saying farewell to graduating seniors Kaya Daylor, Gillian McClanahan, Tyler Webber, and Gregory Zelevinsky at our upcoming Bridging ceremony and wishing them well in their new phase of life and college adventures in the fall.

Junior Youth Fellowship Group

Had a great time walking the ropes and going down the ziplines at Tree Top Adventures in nearby Canton for our May outing. We have one more event planned for Saturday, June 22nd: An epic return to Boda Borg! If you haven't figured out by now, this is one of our absolute favorite activities in youth group - junior and senior groups alike. If you're looking for a great family outing at some point for youth ages 7 and up, we highly recommend checking out Boda Borg up in Malden, MA.

As always, JYFG families should have additional outing details by email. JYFG meets once a month and all events are open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in our congregation.

Have questions about our Senior and Junior youth programs? Want to sign up for an upcoming event? Interested in volunteering to help with the groups or have a student who might be interested in joining? Email Louise Marcoux, DRE at dre@uusharon.org.

Classroom Clean Up:

Children, youth, and adults of all ages are invited to start their summer right by pressing the reset button in each RE classroom. We'll quarantine the dried-up markers, organize nametags, sharpen pencils, and chuck the dessicated glue sticks **on Wednesday, June 19, from 9 am to noon**. You choose your job(s) and stay for 30 minutes or the whole time. Adult supervision provided – children ages 8 and up may be dropped off. Questions? Contact Louise Marcoux.



21st century Communications!

Karen and Louise have gotten the message that email does not work for some families. Especially when it comes to last minute reminders about whether OWL is meeting, what time worship starts, or when a permission slip is needed. Starting in August, we'll be adding group texting to our communications repertoire via Remind.

Parents, teachers, and mentors will receive an invitation to sign up for Remind this month. Once you've authorized us to send you texts, you'll receive messages only if you are in the designated group (e.g. "Paint alert for Preschool-Kindergarten group!" will not be sent to the Coming of Age mentors). If you decide you'd like to drop this service, just send us an email and we'll remove you from the authorized list.

Chelsea Stepping Down as Youth Coordinator

Thank you to all of the wonderful Senior and Junior youth and families who I have enjoyed spending time with and getting to know through the role of Youth Coordinator these past two years! I am stepping down from this position to allow more balance in my life with work and family, but I hope to continue supporting youth programs as a volunteer.



June Programs

Music and Arts

Not Just Another Coffeehouse

Will McMillan and Joe Reid present the songs of Judy Garland

Saturday, June 15

7pm, doors open 6:30pm



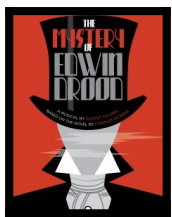
Please join us for an evening with renowned cabaret singer Will McMillan and jazz pianist Joe Reid, who will be paying tribute to Judy Garland, one of the most beloved entertainers of the 20th century. Will and Joe will perform many well-known Garland favorites, as well as selections from her legendary Carnegie hall concerts, and will share stories about the ups and downs of her extraordinary life and 45-year career.

Will has sung at venues such as Scullers Jazz Club, Sanders Theatre, the JFK Library, the Inn on Newfound Lake (NH), the Hi-Hat Club (RI), the Westbeth Performance Center (NYC), Spring Island (SC), and Yin Par Le Garcon Chinois (Shanghai). For years he hosted "Will & Company," a series at the Blacksmith House in Harvard Square highlighting local performers and songwriters, and has released four CDs. More information is available at Will's website, WillSings.com.

Joe enjoys a busy career performing with a wide range of jazz and classical musicians, theatre groups, chamber ensembles and dance troupes. He has been an accompanist for the Boston Conservatory, the Longy School of Music, the New School of Music in Cambridge and the Mark Morris Dance Company. Check out Joe's YouTube channel (search YouTube under "Joe Reid Music") or visit JoeReidMusic.com.

During intermission enjoy our homemade desserts and fair trade beverages. Hope to see you there!

The Mystery of Edwin Drood:



Come to a UU Theater Night at Wheaton College in Norton on Saturday, June 22 at 7:30 p.m. to see *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, presented by the Norton Singers. UCS members Christian Rouleau and Janet Schmidt are in the cast. "Drood" is a musical murder mystery, based on Charles Dickens' unfinished final novel,

with great songs, quirky characters, improvisation and comedy. And the audience gets to vote on how the show ends! A block of reserved seats will be available for the final show on Sat., June 22, which you'll be able to buy online at showtix4u.com, using a special code (which will be available soon) to access those seats. If you prefer to go to a different performance (Fridays June 14 and 21 at 7:30, Saturday June 15 at 7:30, and Sunday June 16 at 2), you can buy tickets at the same website. Contact Janet Schmidt with any questions.

Children's Choir meets regularly on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:30pm in the vestry. Pizza included. Performing in church twice a month. The choir does not meet when the school is out. Questions? Contact Forbesy at forbesyrussell@hotmail.com or 781-201-9533.

Porch Fest: UCS Member Paige Davis is organizing Sharon's first-ever Porchfest! Porchfests are events where musicians and other artists perform on private porches, yards or driveways for an afternoon of music. Audiences stroll from street to street, taking in the local sounds. The event makes the community stronger because neighbors get to know each other as people. Sharon Porchfest will take place on Sunday, September 8 from 1-5pm at 8-10 houses in the center of town. We are still looking for some more performers, sign up at www.sharonporchfest.com.

Support Groups

AI-Anon Meeting - An 11th step AI-Anon group meets at UCS each Sunday evening at 7:15pm. It is an open meeting.

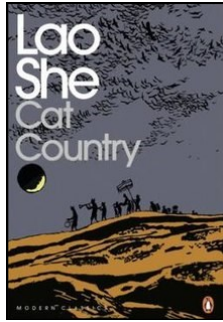
Men's Group is a group for men who are members and friends of UCS. We gather on the first and third Monday of each month at 8 pm to talk about our lives and topics of mutual interest. We are open to new members. If you're curious please feel free to drop in on one of our meetings. For more information ask Jon Slavin (jslavin37@gmail.com).

Women's Support Group II. - Meets on second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 7:30pm. New women

June Programs, continued

Interest and Discussion Groups

Book Group – Our choice for June 5th is **Cat Country**: A Satirical Novel of China in the 1930s by Lao She. When a traveler from China crash-lands on Mars, he finds himself in a country inhabited entirely by Cat People. Befriended by a local cat-man, he becomes acquainted in all aspects of cat-life, including language, poetry and the local narcotic. Curiosity turns to despair when he ventures further into the heart of the country and the culture, and realizes that he is witnessing the bleak decline of a civilization.



We're going to take a break for July, and will meet again on August 7th.

You are always welcome to join us (7pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month), whether or not you've finished the book.

Let's Laugh Today— LET'S LAUGH TODAY in Sharon is on Saturday, June 8th !

What a great way to start the weekend! Bring the whole family and get your giggle on by attending a FREE laughter session in Program Room A/B of The Unitarian Church of Sharon, 4 North Main Street from 11am to noon on **Saturday, June 8th**. Any age and any level of physical ability can participate in this uplifting experience! Enjoy this unique exercise of simulated laughter combined with gentle breathing that brings more oxygen to the body's cells. This oxygen boost gives enhanced vitality, energy and a feeling of real well-being. You can sit or stand. There are no postures or poses. There will be special guests this month from a new couples training group!

Please bring your water bottle because laughing can be dehydrating. Led by Certified Laughter Yoga Master Trainers, Linda and Bill Hamaker. If you have any questions, just call them at 508-660-2223 or e-mail billandlinda@letslaughtoday.com. PLEASE BRING AT LEAST ONE CANNED GOOD FOR THE SHARON/STOUGHTON FOOD PANTRY. See more information and other opportunities to laugh at www.letslaughtoday.com. There will be a meeting in July, but not in August.

Meditation Group meets weekly. It is an open group, available to anyone who cares to give it a try. We meet Tuesdays at 7pm for one hour of silent meditation. The one-hour period is divided into two sitting periods with an optional period of walking med-

itation in the middle. This division also allows participants to join us for just 30 minutes of meditation and then leave, without any disruption, instead of (or after) the walking meditation. Please call Susan Allison or Ray Wallace with any questions.

Movie Group had there last meeting for the year. The next movie will be on Friday September 13 and they will view "Green Book".

Seeing White - We'll continue the exploration of whiteness in our ongoing conversation about racism.

Sunday Group: June 23, 7:30-9 pm *Seeing White* Part 9, "A Racial Cleansing in America" <http://www.sceneonradio.org/episode-39-a-racial-cleansing-in-america-seeing-white-part-9/>

Tuesday Group: June 25, 7:30-9 pm *Seeing White* Part 5, "Little War on the Prairie" <http://www.sceneonradio.org/episode-35-little-war-on-the-prairie-seeing-white-part-5/>

Writer's Group – Meets on second Sunday of the month, at noon 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.

Are you receiving regular UCS emails and information?

All the members and friends should be getting monthly newsletters and periodic announcements.

If you are not getting the monthly newsletters and other communication, please subscribe using <https://www.uusharon.org/keep-in-touch/email-lists/announcements-subscription/> or reach out to Linda Cveckova at admin@uusharon.org.

If you are already subscribed, the page will inform them of that fact.

If you want to unsubscribe, there is a link you can use to do so at the bottom of their newsletter email.

Any questions, please email Linda Cveckova at admin@uusharon.org.

Submitted by Jeff Rose, IT Chair and Linda Cveckova, Office Manager

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS



Updates & news from the Social Justice Committee – Here is what you need to know about what's happening for Social Justice at your church:

Brown Envelope donations:

Our Brown Envelope collections in April raised \$1,057.55 for the **Louis D. Brown Peace Institute**. (Additional pledges in support of UCS walkers were made online as well.) The collection was given in support of the over 30 UCS members who joined in this year's Peace Walk (see the article below).

In May, our Brown Envelope donations raised \$1,250 to support the work of two programs with which we have had long-standing relationships: **MIRA** and **Centro Presente**. The Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition works to ensure that: *All immigrants and refugees are empowered to fully participate in their communities' social, economic and civic life and advocate for themselves.* Centro Presente is a member-driven, statewide Latin American immigrant organization dedicated to the self-determination and self-sufficiency of the Latin American immigrant community of Massachusetts. Thank you for your support.

For all of June, our Brown Envelope collection will be taken to further the work of **GLSEN**. The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (glsen.org) is dedicated to ensuring that every member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

Climate Justice at the UCS

The **Climate Crisis through Curiosity, Compassion and Connection** working group (the **5C Group**) continues to explore the spiritual aspects of our response to Climate Justice. The group will meet on June 9th after Coffee Hour for sharing, quiet contemplation, meditation and readings. See Barbara Nelkin-Rose for details.

The **Green Team** continues to work behind the scenes to examine and improve our collective practices as stewards the environment, both at church and in our individual lives. Look for some changes and

new thinking around how we celebrate, travel, and break bread together, with an eye to doing it GREEN! Have you noticed the new **Green Tip** each week in the Order of Service insert? There you will find useful information, facts and suggestions for making a difference in how we work to live lightly on this planet. If you missed it, we offer a second chance to follow up on these suggestions here, including links to im-

Green Tips from the last month:

April 28th: *Did you know that there is textile recycling at the Sharon Public Schools?* Please recycle clean and dry textiles such as unusable clothing, linens, belts, shoes, purses, shower curtains etc. to keep them out of incinerators or landfill. Please visit the school website for information about the location of drop-off bins and for a complete list of items that are accepted. <https://www.sharon.k12.ma.us/Page/525>



May 5th: *Do you sometimes put things in the recycle bin that you hope but aren't sure are recyclable?* It is important to avoid aspirational recycling (<https://wewantrefill.com/aspirational-recycling-when-good-intentions-have-harsh-consequences/>) so that our recycling stream is clean and usable. Check out <https://recyclesmartma.org> for helpful clarifications about those "not so sure" items.

May 12th: *Did you know that there are at least 100 viable options for reducing the carbon that is already in the atmosphere?* Check out Project Drawdown <https://www.drawdown.org> to learn ways we can reverse the damage and restore our planet for a positive future.

May 19th: *Did you know that purchasing locally produced food can reduce your carbon footprint by reducing your food miles or the distance your food travels?* Sharon has a number of options for purchasing community supported agriculture (CSA's) shares and farmer's markets where you can purchase super fresh veggies while also supporting local businesses.

May 26th: *Did you know that you have the option to purchase 100% renewable energy through your current energy provider?* Check out <https://masspowerchoice.com/sharon> for more information.

If you have comments or suggestions for Green Tips please contact Tawnya Smith at createforpeace@gmail.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

Mother's Day Walk for Peace

Thank you, Unitarian Church of Sharon members, for your pledge support through Brown Envelopes. Thank you, mothers, fathers, grandparents children, youth, young adults, for walking for peace.

Why They Walk in Dorchester and W. Roxbury

Like our young people, Louis D. Brown, a 15-year-old young man living in West Roxbury, was an avid reader a total bookworm. He was caring and compassionate. He loved Chinese food and hated doing the dishes. At fifteen, he was committed to making his community a more peaceful and just place through the Teens Against Gang Violence group he was part of. Louis believed that all young people had the potential to be peacemakers - regardless of what side of the streets they come from. He had the long-term goal of becoming the first Black president of the United States. Louis was killed in the crossfire of a shootout in 1993. Louis' parents, Joseph and Clementina (Tina) Chéry founded the Peace Institute in 1994 to carry out the peacemaking work that Louis started. Their goal was to teach young people the value of peace, focus on the assets in community, and transform society's response to homicide.

Why We Walked

Love, Unity, Faith, Hope, Courage, Justice, and Forgiveness. We walked because we care and our faith calls us to respond to injustice. We walked because we are mothers, fathers, children, teens, young adults and grandparents. We walked because we want to build peace and end violence. We walked because love is at the heart of what we do. We walked to demonstrate our support for and unity with the families and survivors of homicide in the communities of West Roxbury and Dorchester. We walked because, to quote Rev. Wendy Bell, "These are all our children." We also walked to represent the financial support we give through our pledges to

the work being done by the Louis D. Peace Institute:

In 2009, the Peace Institute began convening the Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims Network to improve service delivery and coordination to families impacted by murder. In 2013, the Peace Institute published The Survivor's Burial and Resource Guide that codifies the best practices we have developed over twenty years of serving survivors of homicide victims. The Survivor's Burial and Resource Guide has been purchased by four level-one trauma centers in Boston and other service providers across the city. In 2016, the Peace Institute launched the Statewide Survivors of Homicide Victims Network for family members of murder victims using their experience and expertise to shape public health and safety policy.



A bit of rain didn't dampen the spirit of the day as UCS Peace Walkers joined thousands on the streets of Boston to support peace and end violence.



Some of the dozens of UCS Peace Walkers who gathered to protest the injustice of violence in our communities.

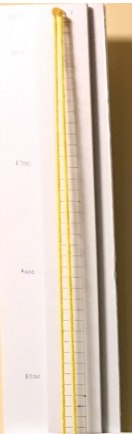
SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continues

Migrant Justice

Our Faith in Action - Helping a Salvadorian Family Seeking Asylum

Thank you to all who continue to donate funds for grocery cards for the Salmeron family, who have escaped from the violence and threats to their lives in El Salvador to seek safety and asylum in the United States. Our fundraising effort has already exceeded

\$3000, which is being shared with the Salmerons in modest monthly allotments by the program coordinators at Our Lady of Sorrows Church. While this growing fund is sufficient to carry their grocery needs for some months to come, the timing and outcome of their asylum journey remain unknown, and we remain committed to supporting them for as long as their needs remain critical. Please consider maintaining your giving to this worthy cause as we work to build a safe, stable community for everyone.



Salmeron family donations currently exceed \$3000.

Rainbow Sunday – Pride Parade – Transgender & Non-Binary Workshop

Rainbow Sunday - On June 2nd, the Unitarian Church of Sharon will celebrate our annual Rainbow Sunday. On Rainbow Sunday, we honor the diversity in our congregation and that we are a Welcoming Congregation. Please plan to attend on Rainbow Sunday and wear a shirt with a color of the rainbow for our annual UCS photo after the service.

Boston Pride Parade – Don your rainbow colored shirts and flags and join members of UCS for the annual Boston Pride Parade on Saturday, June 8th. We will meet at the Sharon train station and ride the 8:58 AM train into Back Bay (**NOTE THE CHANGED TRAIN TIME FROM LAST YEAR**). We will then attend the Pride service at the Arlington Street Church at 11:00 AM. At noon, the parade begins and participants can choose to march with the Arlington Street Church group or watch the parade from the sidelines. Please join us! Happy Pride! !

Welcoming Congregation – The SJC continues to plan for the renewal of our designation as a Welcoming Congregation within the UUA. This will be a challenging and engaging opportunity for the congregation to reexamine our commitment to the principles of inclusivity and the spiritual practice of welcoming everyone. This work is never truly done, and we will explore together what it means to fulfill this commitment. Stay tuned for more information and upcoming events, including an exciting workshop series on Transgender and Non-Binary Inclusion.



Ongoing Social Justice opportunities

There are many ways that you can support our work for social justice: visit the Social Justice Corner in the Vestry, following Sunday worship services, where you can buy Fair Trade coffees, chocolates and other items, as well as Shopping for Justice supermarket gift cards in various denominations for Shaw’s, Stop & Shop, and Big Y. Five percent of the card’s value is donated by the stores and stays with the church to help fund our social justice projects in support of people who experience food and housing insecurity. We also collect non-perishable food items for the local Food Pantry in the front Lobby, along with toiletries for the overnight guests of MainSpring House homeless shelter in Brockton. Once a month we also assemble 100 bag lunches for MSH. Clothing items for the CommUnity Closet are always welcome (drop-off in the Vestry). Don’t forget to learn more about our monthly suggested offering for a worthy cause via our Brown Envelope donation program, and keep an eye out for our occasional Do It Now action requests at Coffee Hour for participatory efforts on a range of topics. Interested in finding support for a topic close to your heart? Come to the monthly SJC meeting to learn how we work together to make the world a little bit better, one step at a time.

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continues**Community Closet Update**

Located at the UU Church of Brockton (325 West Elm St.), the CommUnity Closet is a project of the 5 Point Cluster, and is open on the second Saturday of every month, free to all. We continue to collect donations of new and gently used clothing for all ages, new socks and underwear, diapers, reading glasses and women's sanitary products. Items can be dropped off in the Vestry. Volunteers are needed for transporting and sorting of donations on an on-going basis. (Contact Jim Mullin for details - jim-mullin25@gmail.com)

Upcoming Dates:

Sunday, 2 June – Rainbow Sunday Celebration Services, 10:00 and 10:30am

Sunday, 2 June – Rainbow Photo on the steps of the church following the service, 11:30-ish

Sunday, 2 June - monthly SJC Meeting, Library, following the Rainbow Celebration at Coffee Hour

Tuesday, 4 June – Green Team meeting, 7:00pm

Saturday, 8 June – Pride Parade in Boston at noon (train from Sharon at 8:58 **NEW TIME**), Arlington St. Church Celebration and service @ 11am

Sunday, 9 June - MSH lunch making, Vestry, during Coffee Hour

Sunday, 9 June – 5C Group meeting after Coffee Hour

Eastern Bank Parking Lot

Our friends at **Eastern Bank** are happy to let us use their parking lot on Sunday mornings, but they do have 24/7 users of their ATM. They require that the two parking spots nearest their back door entrance remain open at all times for their customers' use. **Please do not park in the two spots next to the handicapped spaces closest to the ATM.**



Conversations
At the Meetinghouse



Friday, June 7, 7 P.M.

Sharon Unitarian Meetinghouse

4 North Main Street. Sharon MA

Free and open to the public

Presenting

We've Got Rhythm

A musical program exploring a wide variety of rhythmic types:
Tango, Mazurka, Viennese Waltz, Viennese March, Ragtime, and an Equine-Based Overture

Composed by the following:

Theodor Schrammel

Franz von Suppe

Frederic Chopin

Richard Strauss

Carlos Gardel

&

Scott Joplin

Christine & David

Hagan, pianists

June 2019 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Committee Chairs 9am (VES) 5-Point Cluster 10am (AB)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SJC monthly meeting 12pm (LIB) Senior Youth Group 5-7pm (NUR) Covenant Group I. 7:15pm (VES) AI-Anon Meeting 7:15pm (LIB)	Women's Group I. (Closed) 7pm (LIB) Men's Group 8pm (A)	Children's Choir 5:30pm (VES) Meditation Group 7pm (LIB)	Book Group 7pm (LIB) Adult Choir 7:30pm (SAN)	ESL 6pm (LIB) Personnel Committee 7pm (MIN) Ukulele Group 7:30pm (VES)	Potluck Supper 6pm (VES) Conversations 7pm (AB)	Let's Laugh Today 11am – noon (A/B)
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Writer's Group 12pm (LIB) Rental – music teachers 1:45pm (SAN) Reiki Support Group 3pm (AB) Senior Youth Group 5-7pm (NUR) Covenant Group II. 7pm (VES) AI-Anon Meeting 7:15pm (LIB)		Children's Choir 5:30pm (VES) Meditation Group 7pm (LIB) Membership Meeting 7pm (MIN)	Board of Trustees 7:15pm (LIB) Adult Choir 7:30pm (SAN)	ESL 6pm (LIB) Women's Group II. 7:30pm (A/B)	Planning Meeting 8am (LIB) Movie Night 7pm (A/B) Annual Meeting 7pm (SAN)	Not Just Another Coffee House 7pm (VES)
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Father's Day Picnic 11:45 am AI-Anon Meeting 7:15pm (LIB) Covenant Group I. 7:15pm (VES)		Meditation Group 7pm (LIB) RE Committee 7:30pm (B)	Caring Committee (Closed) 7pm (MIN)	ESL 6pm (LIB) Ukulele Group 7:30pm (VES)	Newsletter DEADLINE	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Senior Youth Group 5-7pm (NUR) Covenant Group II. 7pm (VES) AI-Anon Meeting 7:15pm (LIB) Seeing White I. 7:30pm (NUR)		Meditation Group 7pm (LIB)	Endowment Committee 7pm (LIB)	ESL 6pm (LIB) Women's Group II. 7:30pm (A/B)		
30						
AI-Anon Meeting 7:15pm (LIB)						

To view up to date
calendar of events go to

[http://www.uusharon.org/calendars/
month/](http://www.uusharon.org/calendars/month/)



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