

# the chalice

Published by the  
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## **OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**Wednesday, October 23**

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## **OCTOBER WORSHIP SERVICES**

**THEME: BELONGING**

**10:00 am Family Service**

**10:30 am Adult Service**

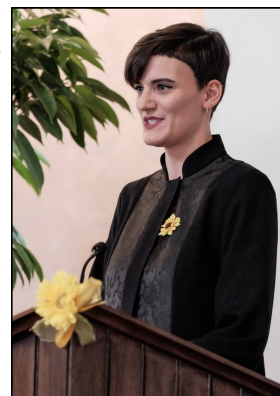
### **October 6: Though We Have Broken Our Vows a Thousand Times**

Our Jewish friends will be observing Yom Kippur this week, the holiest day of the Jewish year, a day to atone for sins. As Unitarian Universalists we may not be comfortable with the language of "sin." Still, to reckon with how we may have failed ourselves or one another opens the possibility of transformation. This sermon will focus on the sin of racism and how racism has arbitrated who "belongs" and who is an "outsider" in our culture.

### **October 13: Choosing Courage**

There is simply so much we cannot control in our beautiful and hurting world. How do we cultivate resilient communities in spite of all the uncertainty around us? What does it look like to make courage into a daily practice in our lives? Join Guest Minister, Rev. Natalie Malter, to reflect on choosing courage amidst the messiness.

The guest speaker is, **Rev. Natalie Malter** is a UU minister, who is currently a doctoral student in the Study of Religion at Harvard University. Her research focuses upon 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century American religious history and the relationship between religion and women's rights movements, particularly the lives of religious feminists in the 1970s. She served on the editorial board of *A Documentary History of Unitarian Universalism* (Skinner 2017) and is passionate about the ways in which UU history shapes our present and our future.



### **October 20: Whose Is This?**

My two-year-old is very concerned about what's hers, and making sure everyone in the sandbox knows it: "Mine!" This morning we will consider: what belongs to us, and to what do we belong?

### **October 27: All Souls**

A community of remembrance is a community of belonging. As part of our traditional All Souls service, you will be invited to light a candle and to name loved ones who have died. We will reflect on grief and loss, and the power of love to move us through it all.

## From the Minister



Even though our apartment is in the middle of the city, it feels rather like a treehouse on our third-floor back porch. We're surrounded by trees, thanks to the scruffy patch of woods in the vacant lot behind our house and our next door neighbors' small wooded backyards. There's a couple of black locust trees, some kind of pine tree with long needles, and a huge Norway maple tree. Norway maples are a non-native invasive species. Invasives make me frown and grumble because they tend to cause problems for native wildlife and thus can endanger the diversity of local flora and fauna. So I have had mixed feelings about this tree behind my house. Adding to the sort of sinking feeling I would get when gazing at my Norway maple, the last several seasons, every single leaf on that tree developed black spots and fell off. This was not in the usual "my leaves are elegantly changing color because it's fall" kind of falling off, but in a "ugh I'm sick and so I plummet" kind of falling off.

My daughter has a totally different attitude towards this tree. She loves watching the squirrels play in the branches and she loves listening to the woodpeckers hammer away at the trunks. She does not seem to mind the black splotches nor does she care that this tree is not native to the region. Her enjoyment has helped me realize that I can enjoy this tree too. I doubt it's close enough to an intact forest to threaten any biodiverse ecosystems, so I can let my guard down about the whole invasive thing. I have begun to appreciate how peaceful it is, how lovely its green leafy shade is, even with the spots. And how resilient it is! Year after year this tree has weathered this disease and still it keeps growing, leafing out and starting fresh each spring. It is a home to wildlife and it shades my house in the hot summer. And so this tree is reminding me that even something supposedly undesirable and sick can still be beautiful, strong, and welcoming. Our worship theme for the month of October is "Belonging" and I have realized, even though this tree is diseased and invasive, it still belongs in my backyard. I always love a lesson from a surprising

teacher, like a tree. What have been some unexpected teachers in your life lately?

It has been wonderful to get to sit down for conversations, coffee, and meals with several of you. Please do continue to reach out – I want to get to know you! Also, if you need to reach me, you can email me at [minister@uusharon.org](mailto:minister@uusharon.org) (some of you may still have Rev. Wendy's name saved as the alias on that account in your email contacts – which you can go in and change! – and rest assured, your message is getting to me). You can also call me at the office 781 784 3652 ext 2, or on my cell phone, 617 851 9356.

Wishing you peace and blessings.

*Rev. Jolie Olivetti*

## Staff Update:

### Our New Administrative Assistant: Leslie Cox

We are pleased to welcome Leslie Cox as our new Administrative Assistant. Leslie will work in the RE Office on Wednesdays and Thursdays and in the Administrative Office on Friday mornings.

Leslie is a longtime member of the Foxborough Universalist Church where she has served in many leadership roles, including public relations trustee, Committee on Ministry member, and treasurer. She lives in Sharon with her husband, Steve. Their children, Julia and James, participated in RE, youth cons and Ferry Beach summer programs. Leslie is excited for this new opportunity to serve Unitarian Universalism.



### Linda Cveckova - Congregational Administrator

On September 11, 2019 the Board of Trustees has voted to approve a title change for Linda Cveckova from Office Manager to Congregational Administrator to better reflect the range of tasks and responsibilities that Linda performs in her role.

## From the President



*We 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*

This is the Mission Statement of our Church. I have to admit I need to read it every so often, to site with it and think about what it means as a board member and a congregant.

The Board's primary focus is to uphold this Mission by ensuring the Church can sustain itself financially and structurally. In addition, the Board supports the Ministerial work of the Church (worship, religious education, social justice, caring, music, adult education, youth ....). We do this with the staff and the volunteers who work hard for all of us to help create our Church community. Every member and friend helps build our Church community!

At the Board retreat on September 18th, we began to delineate our goals for the coming year. We are also continuing a discussion about our roles as a Board and how our work overlaps and contributes to the ministry of the church with the leadership of our Minister, Jolie Olivetti. At this writing, the Board is reviewing a draft of the goals as well as working with Jolie to establish her ministry goals. When they are finalized (hopefully at the Board's October meeting) we will share them you.

I can share a general overview for the October Chalice. The Board wants to ensure our financial sustainability, update the Church Bylaws, and update the Church Safe Congregation Policy from June 2018 to include protocols to secure the Church from an armed intruder and to respond if an attack occurs (awareness, prevention, preparedness and response). This work will include a process that includes your input and ability to get involved with task force participation as well.

The Board Liaisons to the Committees are listed in Table 1 on this page.

Many of these Committees are looking for volunteers to be on the Committees and/or to help with tasks. Please reach out to the Committee Chairs for more information.

Committee	Board Liaison	Chair(s)
IT and Website	Brenda Wilbur	Jeff Rose
Finance	Susan Allison	Susan Allison
Stewardship	Brian Cook	Rory McGregor
Worship	Barbara Rose	Jean Fox
AIM2	Brian Cook	Jack Armstrong
Social Justice	Barbara Rose	Gare Reid & Elizabeth Siftar
Nominating	Susan Drisko	Julie Armstrong
Personnel Committee	Susan Drisko	Colleen Tuck
Building and Grounds	Andrew Plumridge	Lindsay Drisko
Membership	Brian Cook	Terry Fitzgerald & Jean Zaniewski
Religious Ed	Glen Rivard	Andrea Pannone & Christian Roulleau
Caring Committee	Jolie Olivetti	Joyce Bramhall & Ivy Krull
Endowment Committee	Brenda Wilbur	Pam Baker Webber

**Table 1:** Board Liaisons to Committees 2019/ 20

Finally, on September 15<sup>th</sup> I was proud to represent the Board as the congregation gave its blessing to this year's Religious Education Volunteers! Over 40 adults and youth will be working with our children this year building a trusting and honest relationship with each child, helping each child feel valued and to grow spiritually. This is one of many examples of intentionally building our community!

I also want to thank the folks who organized the Open House on September 29<sup>th</sup>!

Please join me in enhancing and building our community, living our mission and being a source of peace and friendship during this tumultuous time in our country.

*Susan Olson Drisko*

President



## Religious Education News

### October in RE

The Preschool-Kindergarten group will encounter the beauty of nature, make chalices, discover some of the people who make up this congregation, and explore sad feelings (on the day that, during the family worship service, we light candles in memory of loved ones who have died).

The **Grades 1-4** group will explore awe and wonder as they build houses out of leaves, sticks, shells, and other natural objects that they gathered. They will also consider how flawed things can also be beautiful and how people live on in our memories after they die.

The **Grades 5-6** group will continue their exploration of the power in the qualities of flexibility, persistence, and gathering ("water power") by creating a learning experience for themselves to deepen their understanding of these qualities.

The **Grades 7-8** group will learn about Judaism and the 8 practices of welcoming as they prepare to visit Temple Sinai on October 20.

The family worship service on Sunday, October 27, will include an observance of All Souls Day. Everyone will have the opportunity to light a candle for a loved one who has died. The loved one need not be human -- children need space to honor and remember pets as well.

### **Should I register my children in the RE program?**

Eventually, yes. If you are new to the church, please come with your family a few times to make sure that you feel comfortable here. Please fill out a visitor form so that we know if your child has allergies and so that we can send you email warning you about an upcoming paint activity in your child's class.

All children and youth ages 0-18 years should register (eventually). Forms are available outside the RE office and on the church web site. Scholarships are available through the minister, the Director of Religious Education, or Christian Roulleau or Andrea Pannone (chairs of the RE Committee).

## YOUTH GROUPS

### Senior Youth Group

Meets on Sundays from 5-7pm in the Observatory (AKA: the Nursery). Senior Youth Group is open to any and all individuals in grades 9-12 and folks are encouraged to bring friends! Big things lie ahead this year for SYG! We have been getting to know each other and plan our year including our upcoming retreat! We are heading to Cedar Hill Saturday Oct 5th to Sunday Oct 6th. Several SYG members participated in the climate strike on September 20th and we are discussing how to continue bringing awareness and action around the climate crisis to UCS and beyond!



### Junior Youth Fellowship Group

We had a fun-filled September meeting date where we planned out our activities for the year. Check out the list of activities on the youth bulletin board! JYFG meets monthly and is for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Our next event will be our annual youth retreat to Cedar Hill Retreat Center in Duxbury. JYFG families should mark their calendars for an overnight Friday Oct 4th to Saturday Oct 5th.

Have questions about our Senior and Junior youth programs? Interested in volunteering to help with the groups or have a student who might be interested in joining? Email our Youth Coordinator Katie Byron at [yc@uusharon.org](mailto:yc@uusharon.org)

## **Comprehensive Sexuality Education for Grades 1 and 2**

Parents are invited to an information session on Sunday, November 3 at noon to learn more about the Our Whole Lives comprehensive sexuality education program for children in Grades 1 and 2. Talking with young children about sexuality will be the focus of the video and discussion. Childcare and lunchtime snacks will be provided. The program will last one hour.

Questions? Please see Louise Marcoux.

## Religious Education News, continued

### Coming of Age in October

All meetings are Tuesdays from 7:30-9 pm

October 1: Youth meet with minister and DRE.

October 8: Mentor Orientation

October 15: Youth meet with mentors and DRE.

### October is Fire Safety Month

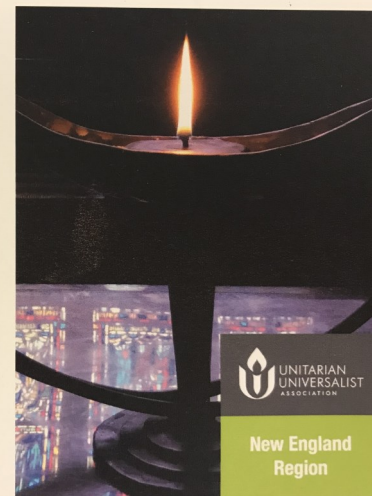
What can we do to honor Fire Safety Month in our congregation?

1. **Know what to do when the fire alarm sounds.**  
We will have a fire drill at the end of a worship service during the month of October.
  - a. When the alarm sounds, parents/guardians should resist the impulse to rescue their children. They should exit the sanctuary as quickly as possible through either the front or back exits and then gather on the side lawn of the church, well away from the building. Parents/guardians should wait with other worshippers on the side lawn until the fire department gives an all-clear signal, at which point they may pick up their children from their RE Groups.
  - b. RE volunteers and nursery staff have been trained to evacuate all children from the building. They will bring the children to the lawn in front of the shed, where they will re-take attendance and stay in a group until the all-clear by the fire department. RE volunteers will stay with the children until parents/guardians pick them up.
2. **Take action to promote fire safety at church.**
  - a. We are a chalice-lighting people. If you see matches left out after a gathering, feel empowered to put them away in a chalice lighter's supply box (on the top shelf of the either coat closet).
  - b. Help keep hallways clear of objects. Everyone is empowered to move the rolling bulletin boards from the vestry to Program C AFTER the children have been picked up from Program C. (The boards are stored in C, but cannot be put there until the children have left)

*Louise Marcoux, DRE*

2019 HONOR  
CONGREGATION

THANK YOU  
FOR FULFILLING  
YOUR  
COMMITMENT



UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
ASSOCIATION

New England  
Region

*UUA has recognized UCS as a 2019 Honor Congregation. The UUA writes in their Thank you card: "Your supports fulfills the covenant between member congregations and our Unitarian Universalist Association."*

### JOIN THE FUN--CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN WITH THE FIVE POINTS CLUSTER

We're invited to join in a family potluck Halloween party on October 26th with other UUs from area congregations, hosted by the Canton church. It's a great way to enjoy each other's company over good food, and do a little Halloween playing around. This is a family-friendly gathering for all ages, and costumes are encouraged (but optional.)

To sign up: <https://whoozin.com/DYV-YDQ-44RR-T4YG>

Date: Saturday evening, October 26th

Time: 5-8 PM

Place: First Parish Unitarian Universalist, 1508 Washington St. Canton. (They have a great fellowship hall!)

Cost: Free

What to bring: Yourself (costumed or not) and something for the potluck table or a contribution toward beverages and supplies.

We'll have a sign-up list (including what food you're likely to bring) at coffee hour during October, and we'll share a link to sign up online as soon as it gets set up.

Hope to see you there!

## October Programs

### Music and Arts

#### Not Just Another Coffeehouse

### Sarah McQuaid

Saturday, October 19th

7pm, doors open 6:30pm



This is a special event with a real star. "The precision and sophistication of the writing and playing blows me away. I am so glad to be involved," writes guitar legend Michael Chapman in his introduction to Sarah McQuaid's fifth solo album *If We Dig Any Deeper It Could Get Dangerous* – which he offered to produce after meeting Sarah at a festival where they were both on the bill.

Recently honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Ards International Guitar Festival in Northern Ireland, Sarah's also drawn critical praise for her voice (which has been variously likened to malt whiskey and melted chocolate) and her engaging rapport with audiences: "I've attended hundreds of concerts of all kinds, and her subtle mastery onstage launches her straight into my fave shows ever," wrote The Huffington Post.

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

### The 2019 UU Theater Nights

Everyone can be a star on **Karaoke Night!**

Join at the MMAS Black Box Theater on Friday, October 18 from 7-11pm. The music and fun will be in full swing, as will the cash bar! Enjoy a divine evening of music, friendship and laughter! Entrance fee: \$15 in advance, or (\$20 at the door, if available) The fee includes snacks. The cash bar will be open. Go to [MMAS.org](http://MMAS.org) for tickets



The next theater night is on **Saturday, November 2 for Boeing Boeing!**

The play was listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the most performed French play throughout the world! Who knew! Our pot-luck reception will start at 7:00pm and the show starts at 8:00pm. Tickets are \$28.00pp. New members and guests are welcome. Contact Pat McDougal for more information.

Here is the rest of the season:

THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES Fri. Dec 13 **(date change)**

DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE Sat. Jan 25

NOISES OFF! Sat. Mar 21

SEUSSICAL Sat. Apr 25

BLITHE SPIRIT Fri. June 19

**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](mailto:forbesyrussell@hotmail.com) or 781-201-9533.

### Support Groups

**Al-Anon Meeting** - An 11th step Al-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](mailto:jslavin37@gmail.com)) or any other group member.

**Women's Support Group II.** – Meets on second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 7:30pm. New women are always welcome to join.



## October Programs, continued

### Interest and Discussion Groups

**Book Group** – will meet on Wednesday, **October 9th**, at 7pm, in the church library. This is an exception to our usual "first Wednesday" meetings.

Following on the death of author Toni Morrison, we have opted to read her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, **Be-loved**, as our October selection. Morrison was inspired by the story of an African-American slave who escaped to a free state, and was faced with a horrible choice years before the story opens in 1873.

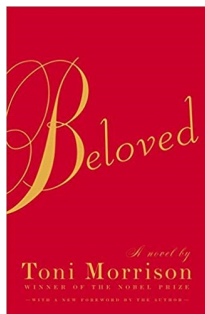
We usually meet in the church library at 7pm on the first Wednesday of most months. You are welcome to join whether you've read (or finished) the book.

**Let's Laugh Today**— Let's Laugh Today Adds a Wednesday Evening Session!

You will now be able to get your giggle on twice a month as Let's Laugh Today has added a laughter session to the fourth Wednesday of every month by popular demand! Bring the whole family to a FREE laughter session in Program Rooms A/B from 11am to noon on Saturday, October 19th AND on Wednesday, October 23rd from 7pm to 8pm. Any age and any level of physical ability can participate in this uplifting experience! Every session is always different. 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.

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](mailto:billandlinda@letslaughtoday.com). PLEASE BRING AT LEAST ONE CANNED GOOD FOR THE SHARON/STOUGHTON FOOD PANTRY.

**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 meditation in the middle. This division also allows partici-



pants 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

#### **The Pieces I Am**

October 11 at 7pm

Author Toni Morrison leads an assembly of her peers, critics and colleagues on an exploration of race, history, America and the human condition. Documentary.

Movie Group meets the second Friday of the month at 7PM.



**Seeing White:** Tuesday, October 22, 7:30-9pm. Participation is limited to those who participated last year. Please listen to Scene On Radio Podcast #36: Seeing White: "That's Not Us, So We're Clean"

**White Fragility** -- *Workshop 2* - Sunday, October 27, 7:30-9 pm A guided discussion through Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility*. Participation in this series of three workshops is open to members and friends of this congregation.

**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.



**Sept. 29, 2019:** Selfie station at the UCS Open House

## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS



Here is the latest news on what's happening in the area of social justice here at the UCS. We like to say that everyone in the church community is a participant in this work, one way or another. Whether you come to monthly meetings and lead a sub-group on a cause

that stirs your passion, or if you do your grocery shopping via our Shopping for Justice program to help fund-raise for the homeless and hungry neighbors in our communities, or if you roll up your sleeves and help build (nut-free) PB&J sandwiches for MainSpring House each month, or, rain or shine, join in a rally, vigil or march to raise awareness for an pressing cause, young and old, tall and short, we are all engaged somehow in the work of Social Justice. Here are some of the current projects that you might want to keep an eye on this fall:

### Brown Envelope donations

Every month the SJC selects a program, cause or organization working towards social justice, and we offer congregants a chance to support their work via our Brown Envelope donations when we pass the plate during services. We attempt to reach out to a range of recipients, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally, on a wide range of topics.

During our lay-led services in July and August, including Labor Day weekend, the Brown Envelope collections supported the Summer Youth Programs of the **UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury** ([UUUM.org](http://UUUM.org)). We raised \$736.06, to which we added funds from our Fair Trade profits to send them a check for \$800.

Our Brown Envelope collections in September are directed to our **Partner Church in Gyulakuta**, Transylvania. During the Reformation/Inquisition, Unitarianism was ruthlessly suppressed throughout Europe. But in Transylvania, on the edge of the Ottoman Empire, it was able to survive under the protection of the sultans, who wanted trouble-free borders. After centuries, it gradually spread westward, reaching England, and then moved on to North America. One way we can recognize the contribution Romania has made to perpetuate freedom of religious thought is to help support the Unitarian churches there, which are often very small and struggling. For many years, our congregation has supported our Partner Church in Gyulakuta. The money we raise via our Brown Envelope Collection in September pays for a musician during their worship service and for a copy of the monthly Romanian Unitarian magazine for each family, as well as other urgent local projects. They are enormously grateful for this support.

In October, we have chosen to support the **Environmental Relief Fund** of the **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee** ([www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)). We struggle to find the best

way to respond to the ever-growing list of communities around the planet devastated by a range of environmental disasters, knowing that each has its own particular needs and often overlooked victims. By partnering with the UUSC, we know that critical needs will be responsibly met, thanks to their commitment to "help rebuild, provide resources, support families, and establish relationships with local groups that serve the communities that are often overlooked by mainstream relief efforts." Their current primary focus is on the devastation brought to the Bahamas by this season's hurricanes. Your gifts are gratefully received.

### The 5C Group

#### Responding to the Climate Crisis through Curiosity, Compassion and Connection

As a result of a sermon addressing the climate crisis, given by Rev. Barbara Nelkin-Rose last March, a group called the 5C Group was formed. Its purpose was two-fold: 1) to provide a space where congregants could authentically share their thoughts and feelings about the climate crisis, including their grief, overwhelm and despair, AND 2) use the qualities of Curiosity, Compassion and Connection to find ways to help us move, both individually and as a nation, from a reactive state of fear, anger and guilt to a responsive state of hope, solution seeking and centeredness. The group met twice last year where we shared our feelings, ideas and information about the climate crisis and supported each other through some spiritual practices. Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 27th at noon, where we will continue to explore our feelings about the climate crisis, the ways each one of us is called to take action and how we can become stronger allies to the youth, both within our congregation and within the wider community, determined to face the crisis head on.

And speaking of the youth - Members of the 5C group who were involved in supporting the Sharon High School students participating in the Boston Climate Strike on September 20th were inspired by the number of students who chose to attend the Boston rally and who shared with us their fears and calls to action prior to catching the train into Boston. They left us with a greater resolve to work even more strongly as their allies, to help educate our members and those in our community about the scientific evidence supporting the need to act now to address and allay fears about the goals of the climate strikers and find ways in which people can take action which they feel called to do. So let's keep asking ourselves these questions: What am I called to do? What do I choose to do now? What am I inspired to do now? Please join us at our next meeting on October 27th at noon. We hope to see some new faces, including those of our youth. (Join [the5cgroup@lists.uusharon.org](mailto:the5cgroup@lists.uusharon.org) to stay informed.)



## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continues

### Climate Action Protest

On Friday, September 20, youth in over 120 countries walked out of school to express their deep concerns, fears, disappointment, grief and anger over what they believe is the failure of adults to put solutions into place that would begin to mitigate climate change - and in their view - a global climate crisis which threatens life on this planet. Young climate activists believe that the foundation of a stable climate, which shaped our way of life for millennia, will crumble in their lifetimes. Immediate and decisive action to transform our energy system is the only solution. These young climate activists see current and worsening impacts of climate change - floods, fires,

sea-level rise - as evidence of an increasingly deadly climate crisis. These activists are "building an army of young people who are working to make climate change a priority and to elect leaders who will stand up for the health and well-being of all people, and end the corrupting influence of fossil fuel executives on our politics." They are ordinary young people

who are scared of what the climate crisis means to the people and place they love. And these young climate activists are organized. They are gathering in classrooms, living rooms and places of worship across this country and around the world. They believe that everyone has a role to play, and that by uniting in the millions, they (and assuredly we) can turn the movement into political power to put solutions into place to end climate change. The youth climate movement is organized under several networks - Youth Climate Network, StrikeWithUs, GlobalClimateStrike, SunriseMovement, and ZeroHour. Of these, Sunrise Movement is a Massachusetts-based organization started in 2017. To learn more about Sunrise Movement, go to <https://www.sunrisemovement.org>. A new chapter of the Sunrise Movement (Blue Hills Chapter) will be starting here in Sharon, meeting at the



Sharon High School student and Climate Strike organizer, Sebastian Armstrong, spoke about the youth climate strike at UCS - 9/15/19, photo credit - Ellen Schoenfeld-Beeks



9/20/19 Sharon High School Students Join Rally at UCS Before Going to Boston for the Youth Climate Strike, photo credit - Elizabeth Siftar

UCS in collaboration with the SJC. More info on this exciting development to follow soon.

Here in Sharon, approximately 100 Sharon High School students joined the climate strike, first rallying at the school, then marching to town center to join the interfaith rally held by adult allies at Unitarian Church of Sharon, then continued their march to the Sharon train station to join the actions in Boston. At the rally at UCS, they chanted, sang, gave speeches expressing their deep fears, grief and anger at the failure of leaders to work to end the climate crisis, but also expressed their vision and hope for a better future, as well as their willingness to work for it. They called on all adults to become adult allies to their movement and many of us who attended the rally feel ready to learn more, get involved and become those adult allies. We hope that you will join us!





## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continues

### Green Team Update

At the recent Bean Supper the Green Team organized a sorting station in order to ensure that compostable items were separated from trash and that there was rinse water for those who brought their own table service. Because we are in the process of transitioning to compostable or reusable items for all of our various communal events, it was decided to use up previously purchased plastic silverware and non-compostable plates. That said, some compostable plates were used as well as compostable plastic cups. One full black pail of compostable items was diverted from the landfill/incinerator. Also, approximately 15% of attendees brought their own table service from home, which also had a very positive impact. Thank you to everyone who brought their own reusable items. Once we have fully transitioned to all compostable items, sorting will become much simpler and easier.



Composting & recycling at the Bean Supper

Keep thinking about ways that we, as a congregation committed to a sustainable future, can work together to tread lightly on this planet and be the best stewards possible of our limited resources.

### Guests at Our Table

We continue to work with the interfaith community to support a local family of 6 as they pursue asylum after fleeing deadly threats in El Salvador. They have settled nearby, and since last November 2018, we have committed to supporting their grocery shopping needs with a monthly donation. Stop by the Social Justice Table in the Vestry after Sunday services to learn more about the status of this family, and to make your donation for their support.



### Community Organizing Training Offered in Sharon:

Brockton Interfaith Community (BIC) and Sharon Interfaith Action (SIA) are inviting 5 people (or more) from each congregation in Sharon to take part in a condensed version of SOPA (school of prophetic action) organizing trainings at the Unitarian Church of Sharon. The trainings initiate an eight-month community organizing cycle within Sharon. The first two trainings are Sunday, Oct 27 and Nov 3 from 5-8pm, and are followed by a listening campaign, choosing an issue, research into that issue, and action steps toward reaching a goal. Along the way there will be a second set of trainings to build on the first. This is an important opportunity to be a part of a deep community building effort. See Ellen Schoenfeld-Beeks or Janet Schmidt for details.

### Green Tips from the last month:



**September 29 :** You probably have been recycling paper for quite some time, but did you know that your toilet paper is likely produced from freshly cut trees from the boreal forest? Please consider purchasing recycled toilet paper as you can afford to. Some brands are just slightly more expensive than name brand tissue. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/jul/05/toilet-paper-less-sustainable-researchers-warn>

**September 22:** Did you know that bottled water requires the use of fossil fuels and is causing water shortages in some vulnerable communities? The manufacture and transportation of a one kilogram bottle of Fiji [brand] water is responsible for

- 26.88 kilograms of water (7.1 gallons)
- .849 Kilograms of fossil fuel (one litre or .26 gal) and
- Emits 562 grams of Greenhouse Gases (1.2 pounds).

Please consider using a reusable water bottle.

[https://thewaterproject.org/bottled-water/bottled\\_water\\_wasteful](https://thewaterproject.org/bottled-water/bottled_water_wasteful)

**September 15:** Back to School Reminder-Did you know that the pollution from car exhaust has been linked with an increase in asthma and mental health issues, especially in children? Please don't idle your car, especially in places where children are present. Or, consider if an electric vehicle would work for you when it is time to purchase your next vehicle.

**September 8:** Did you know that residential LED light bulbs (ENERGY STAR rated) -- use at least 75% less energy, and last 25 times longer than incandescent lighting? See if you qualify to get your light bulbs changed free of charge by getting Mass Save energy assessment of your house: <https://www.masssave.com>.

If you have comments or suggestions please contact Tawnya Smith at [createforpeace@gmail.com](mailto:createforpeace@gmail.com)

## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continues

### Being a Welcoming Congregation

#### Inclusion of Transgender and Non-Binary Congregants

In the April 2019 Chalice we reported on a backlash to an article in the Spring 2019 edition of UU World, titled After the L, G, and B. The pain this article caused to many UUs who do not identify themselves by traditional gender terminology, reminded us that we continually need to examine our core values as a UU congregation and honor our commitment to be a truly inclusive community which fosters respect and open-mindedness in all of our relationships and to people of all gender identities, including trans and non-binary. At that time, we purchased a 6-session course provided by the Transforming Hearts Collective designed to help congregations “Deeply explore the intersection of trans identity, spirituality, and faith community, and gain the grounding, context, and skills to transform yourself and your congregation.” This course is a very important resource, for as we look to becoming re-certified as a Welcoming Congregation, we will need to specifically account for how we welcome people of all gender identities.



A number of UCS congregants have already watched all, or part, of this course and have had very positive responses, finding them to be informative and helpful in creating discussion around this important issue. Additionally, SJC is working in close conjunction with our Religious Education Director, Louise Marcoux and our new Youth Coordinator, Katie Byron, to insure that the youth of our church are included in any future projects. Our goal is to create time and space for congregants to watch the sessions, either individually at home, or as a group in church, and then come together for sharing and discussion. We will keep you posted once specific dates have been determined, however, if you are interested in watching the modules sooner or would like to become more involved in the planning of this effort, please contact Gare Reid.

### Community Closet

The CommUnity Closet is a project of our Five Point Cluster of UU churches in the area. We collect donated clothing and other items and offer items for free to the community on the 2nd Saturday on most months, operating out of the UU Church of Brockton (325 West Elm Street). Donations of gently used and new clothing can be left at the Do It Now Table in the Vestry. The focus now is on fall and winter items, as well as the ever-present need for new socks, underwear, diapers and sanitary items. Donations are greatly appreciated.

Regular volunteers on Wednesday mornings are needed to transport and sort donated items. And it will again be our turn on Saturday, 12 October to staff the shop in Brockton: 2-3 volunteers are needed for either the 9:45-11:30 or the 11:15-1:15 shift. See Jim Mullin or Gare Reid with questions or comments and to sign up.

**Ongoing Social Justice opportunities:** you can support social justice causes in other ways as well: 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 Shopping for Justice supermarket gift cards in various denominations for Shaws, Stop & Shop, and Big Y (+/-5% of the 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. Surely there is something related to social justice going on here at church that calls out to you – don't wait, jump right in!

#### Upcoming Dates:

**Thursday, 3 October** – Green Team Meeting, Room A, 7:30pm

**Sunday, 6 October** – SJC monthly meeting, noon, in the Library

**Saturday, 12 October** – CommUnity Closet, UCS volunteer staff, Brockton UU Church, 2 shifts

**Sunday, 13 October** – MainSpring House lunch making, Vestry, following the service

**Sunday, 27 October** – 5C Group meeting, noon, Room A/B

**Sunday, 27 October** – SIA SOPA Training #1, 5-8pm, Room A/B

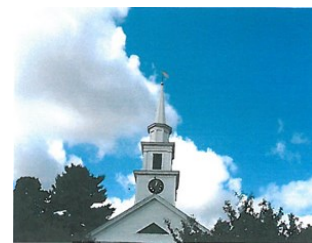
**Sunday, 3 November** – SJC monthly meeting, noon, in the Library

**Sunday, 3 November** – SIA SOPA Training #2, 5-8pm, Room A/B

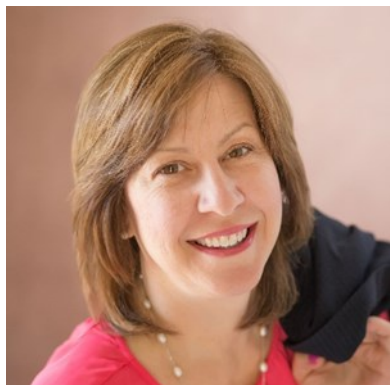
**Sunday, 10 November** – MainSpring House lunch making, Vestry, following the service



## Conversations At the Meetinghouse



# How to Deal with Difficult People



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**VALERIE VIGODA, MBA**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2019, 7 PM**  
**UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SHARON**

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Let's face it, we all have difficult people in our lives. They are often the people who are best at pushing our hot buttons. Whether your difficult person is a work colleague, boss, sibling, spouse, or even your child, this event is for you. Come find out why certain people always seem to be so darn difficult and how you can stop them from causing you so much grief. This discussion will provide you with a whole new way of looking at your difficult people. You will learn about four distinct behavior styles and how these styles affect your ability to communicate effectively. You will acquire tools that you can use right away to finally break old patterns and deal with even your most difficult people.

Valerie Vigoda, MBA, principal of Valrose Solutions, is a professional speaker and coach who travels throughout the United States providing tools to thousands of people each year to help them become happier and more effective in their personal and professional roles. Valerie helps clients to raise their self-awareness, increase their emotional intelligence, and get on a track of continuous self-care and personal growth. With her upbeat, entertaining style, Valerie motivates and trains people to become winners in every area of their lives.

You can find more information at: [valrosesolutions.com](http://valrosesolutions.com)

Conversations at the Meetinghouse is a monthly program held on the first Friday of each month (November to June) at 7PM where members of the community share their expertise and experience about important issues of the day.

***Free and Open To Public***

## October 2019 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> Children's Choir 5:30pm (VES) Coming of Age Youth 7:30pm (AB) Meditation Group 7pm (LIB)	<b>2</b> Adult Choir 7:30pm (SAN)	<b>3</b> UU Ministers Association 9-1pm (VES, AB) ESL 6pm (LIB) UCS Green Team Meeting 7pm (AB) Personnel Committee 7pm (MIN) Ukulele Group 7:30pm (VES)	<b>4</b> Potluck Dinner 6pm (VES) Conversations 7pm (AB)	<b>5</b> Committee Chairs 9am (VES)
<b>6</b> RE 10:30am (multi) Family Service 10:00am (SAN) Adult Service 10:30am (SAN) Monthly SJC meeting 12pm (LIB) Senior Youth Group 5pm (NUR) AI-Anon 7:15pm (LIB)	<b>7</b> Women's Group I. (At Capacity) 7pm (LIB) Men's Group 8pm (A)	<b>8</b> Children's Choir 5:30pm (VES) Meditation Group 7pm (LIB) Membership Committee 7pm (MIN) Coming of Age Mentor Orientation 7:30 (AB)	<b>9</b> Book Group 7pm (NUR) Board of Trustees 7:15pm (LIB) Adult Choir 7:30pm (SAN)	<b>10</b> ESL 6pm (LIB) Women's Group II. 7:30pm (LIB)	<b>11</b> Movie Night 7pm (A/B)	<b>12</b> Circle Supper (OFF)
<b>13</b> RE 10:30am (multi) Family Service 10:00am (SAN) Adult Service 10:30am (SAN) Writer's Group 12pm (LIB) Senior Youth Group 5pm (NUR) AI-Anon 7:15pm (LIB)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Children's Choir 5:30pm (VES) Coming of Age Youth and Mentors 7:30pm (multi) Meditation Group 7pm (LIB)	<b>16</b> Caring Committee (Closed) 7pm (MIN) Adult Choir 7:30pm (SAN)	<b>17</b> ESL 6pm (LIB) Ukulele Group 7:30pm (VES)	<b>18</b> MMAS Karaoke Night 7pm (OFF)	<b>19</b> Let's Laugh Today 11am – noon (A/B) Coffeeshouse 7pm (VES)
<b>20</b> RE 10:30am (multi) Family Service 10:00am (SAN) Adult Service 10:30am (SAN) Senior Youth Group 5pm (NUR) AI-Anon 7:15pm (LIB)	<b>21</b> SHS Choir (rental) 8-2:30pm (SAN, VES) Women's Group I. (At Capacity) 7pm (LIB) Men's Group 8pm (A)	<b>22</b> Children's Choir 5:30pm (VES) Seeing White II. 7pm (NUR) Meditation Group 7pm (LIB)	<b>23</b> Chalice DEADLINE Let's Laugh Today 7pm (AB) Adult Choir 7:30pm (SAN)	<b>24</b> ESL 6pm (LIB) Women's Group II. 7:30pm (LIB)	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5-point Cluster Pot Luck 5-7pm (VES)
<b>27</b> RE 10:30am (multi) Family Service 10:00am (SAN) Adult Service 10:30am (SAN) 5C Group 12pm (AB) Senior Youth Group 5pm (NUR) Sharon Interfaith Action 5pm (AB) Seeing White I. 7:30pm (NUR) AI-Anon 7:15pm (LIB)	<b>28</b> Religious Education Committee 7pm (B)	<b>29</b> Children's Choir 5:30pm (VES) Meditation Group 7pm (LIB)	<b>30</b> Endowment Committee 7pm (LIB) Adult Choir 7:30pm (SAN)	<b>31</b> ESL 6pm (LIB)		

### CALENDAR

To view up to date calendar and to reserve a meeting space please go to

<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  
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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)**