

the chalice

Published by the
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deadlines:** [Click here](#)

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NOVEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

THEME: HEALING

10am Family 10:30 Adult
(unless noted otherwise)

For Zoom information [click here](#)
For Order of Service available Friday before the service [click here](#)

November 1 "All Souls"
10:15 Intergenerational Service
Broadcasting from our UCS Sanctuary

Join us for our annual All Souls service in which we commemorate loved ones who have died. To honor and remember our ancestors and all our beloved dead is to seek healing in ourselves.

November 8 "Confronting Racism, Finding Healing"

We can't heal from racism until the wounding stops, and these wounds impact all of us. This sermon will reflect on how understanding and uprooting racism from within ourselves and our society can be part of the process of healing ourselves and our society. Rev. Jolie preaching. Join us for a facilitated discussion after the service at 1:00 PM on Zoom.

November 15 "Blessing Our Animal Companions"

Animal Blessing services are traditionally observed on or around October 4, the feast day of St. Francis. We're a bit late with ours this year, but nevertheless we will celebrate and offer gratitude to our beloved furry, feathery, scaly, and other non-human companions during our worship this morning. Our pets are some of our greatest healers! You are also invited to bring your pets to the church grounds on Saturday November 14, between 2 pm and 4 pm for an in-person blessing with Rev. Jolie. We will wear masks, stay outdoors, and observe social distance precautions.

November 22 "Moving Through Change Together"

Whether or not we ourselves or our children participated in the Religious Education program so lovingly guided by Louise Marcoux for sixteen years, we may all be feeling the shifts and changes in our congregation that her retirement brings. Join us for a special worship service co-led by Rev. Jolie and our Interim DRE, Christine Bulman. With attention to the past, present, and future, we will reflect on what is most meaningful to us in our religious education program and congregational life in general.

November 29 "Gratitude"
Worship Coordinators are Valerie Vigoda and Beth McGregor

In the words of the hymn, "For all that is our life, we sing our thanks and praise...." In this season of Thanksgiving, we will take time to contemplate the gift of gratitude, and to reflect in a circle of sharing on all that we are thankful for, even in these difficult and stressful times.

From the Minister



Dear friends,

Our November theme is "Healing." How can we consider healing if we keep stumbling upon fresh hurts? Even if we are weathering many losses and heartbreaks in our families,

in our neighborhoods, or in the headlines, we can still try to offer ourselves and one another the medicine we need. Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen says,

Wounding and healing are not opposites. They're part of the same thing. It is our wounds that enable us to be compassionate with the wounds of others. It is our limitations that make us kind to the limitations of other people. It is our loneliness that helps us to find other people or to even know they're alone with an illness. I think I have served people perfectly with parts of myself I used to be ashamed of.

Last month, we held a special evening service called "Vote Love," with a focus on the upcoming election. One of the most important insights that our service leaders and participants shared that evening was that, no matter what happens with this election, there will be work to do. Whoever wins the national election, whoever wins in Congress, in our local races, we will still have plenty to do after November 3. We have the work of keeping ourselves and our friends and family and community members as safe as possible in this time of pandemic. We have the work of fighting for the causes we care about, locally and globally. We have the work of listening to one another, of listening for the being in each human being, even if we disagree. We also have healing work to do, too: healing ourselves and one another in the face of centuries-old structures of oppression that divide, exploit, and benefit some at the expense of others, based on who we are. What is the work you are called to do in these days?

Have you noticed changes to our website? You should be able to find most Zoom links in the church calendar, accessible each month at <https://www.uusharon.org/calendars/month>. Have you noticed new weekly emails from our Congregational Administrator, Linda Cveckova? We are trying new approaches to our communications. Please let me or Linda C. know if you have feedback, or if you are having trouble finding something you are looking for.

One final note: I hope you join me and our Interim Director of Religious Education Christine Bulman for

a special worship service on Sunday, November 22 at 10 AM and 10:30 AM, and at the Listening Sessions that bookend that service: the Friday evening prior, and Sunday afternoon just after the service. The topic: "Moving Through Change Together." More details about these events can be found in [this newsletter](#) and on our [church calendar](#). Whether or not we have had children enrolled in RE during the past 16 years, we are all impacted by Louise Marcoux's retirement after her many years of loving service to this community. Christine and I want to open up space to share stories about what is most meaningful to us in Religious Education and in the life of our congregation as a whole.

Yours in faith and love,

Rev. Jolie

ANIMAL BLESSING AND STEEPLE BLESSING

Saturday, November 14, 2 pm - 4 pm
Church Grounds

Join us for this in-person, masked, outdoor, social distance event. Rain or shine (we'll have a canopy up). Bring your animal companions for a blessing with Rev. Jolie in preparation for our worship service on the topic the next day. All are also invited to come write a blessing for our newly refurbished steeple. Jean Fox created a beautiful model of our church which will serve as a time capsule to place up in our steeple; we will fill it with messages of hope from our whole congregation. We will send out a sign-up form with specific time slots a week before the event so we can ensure safe social distancing that day.



13" model of our church created by Jean Fox

Drop In! Zoom Chats with Rev. Jolie

Thursdays 10 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98093769487?pwd=T3ZqM2NwQnVDd3RPUiGLZFvSWZiUT09>

I will open up my "Virtual Minister's Study" every Thursday at 10 AM as I have been doing lately. We will chat about whatever's on our hearts and minds, and time permitting, we can share reflections on a discussion prompt. Drop in and say hi.

From the President



A CAUTIOUS SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

These are cautious times! How does one get anything done during this pandemic? Taking care of self and family is a big enough challenge. Yet our congregation has successfully renovated the church steeple, three clock faces and the belfry with its original Paul Revere bell. Don't forget the shiny gold ball and classic weathervane that sit atop the steeple. Good fortune has been with us. Wise planning ahead and methodically saving \$ for a rainy day fund made this project possible. Here's the story.

Starting two years ago, if you looked at our church from Angel's Café, the steeple appeared to list slightly to the right. Building & Grounds Committee debated whether this was something new. The steeple had been rebuilt back in the early 1990s. Internal beams had deteriorated due to water damage. Extensive renovation guaranteed another century of structural integrity. Nonetheless, the perceived list warranted investigation.

Gary Webber coordinated the steeple renovation project 25 years earlier. He again contacted local contractors who specialize in steeple work. Enter Chris Burgess from Historical Restorations, member of a three-generation family that has worked on steeples and towers throughout New England. He confirmed that our steeple was structurally solid, but visible surface cracks admitting light and moisture needed attention. Once work commenced, the dilapidated condition of our clock faces, the gold ball atop the steeple, and clapboards on the south-facing side were discovered. His craftsmanship has now fixed all problems listed and produced a true artwork that is gorgeous to behold.



Our new steeple and clock with digital motor to ensure the correct time.

The financial cost for the steeple project was around \$50,000. We could afford this expense thanks to our Capital Reserve Account. When set up in the church Bylaws over 30 years ago, it allocated 5% of every annual operating budget to this Account. We can thank the Parish Boards of years past for faithfully following this Bylaw requirement.

Rory McGregor
UCS Parish President



Red-tailed hawk perched on remodeled weather vane lingered long enough to be captured by Ellen Schoenfeld-Beeks.



Our steeple renovation 2020

Reminder: Church Building remains closed through December 31st.

ELECTION 2020

Spiritual Grounding for Election Week

Nov 3, 10:00 am – 10:00 pm

Spiritual Grounding for Election Day

Zoom link here: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/99553231971?pwd=azZDRERZVURURzBjNU11SjMwUTNjUT09> Unitarian Universalist Ministers are gathering from around the country to offer a space for respite, positive energy, peace and spiritual practice on Election Day. You may join us at any time during that day to find a peaceful space for reflection, prayer, meditation and spiritual practice. Different UU ministers will be leading every 15 minutes. More info here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/728150507736666>

Nov 4th, 9:00 am – 8:00 pm

Unitarian Church of Sharon Drop-In Zoom Room

We will have an informal drop-in Zoom room available all day, for all members of our UCS community, “staffed” by volunteers from our congregation. This is not a space for mental health crisis support nor is it a space for pastoral care. Attendees are asked to use “I” statements and to not make any assumptions about one another’s political stances. We may not have clear election results by November 4th, but we will probably be ready to take a break from this nail-biting and divisive race. So please join us in our Zoom Room, see a friendly face, play some trivia, show off your pets, watch silly videos, or just chat and relax together. **Zoom link will be emailed to our newsletter distribution list prior to the event.** For more information contact Rev. Jolie minister@uusharon.org

Nov 4th, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Sanctuary Boston Worship Gathering on Zoom

[Sanctuary Boston](#) is a UU community that meets twice monthly in the Boston area. We will be sharing our collection plate with Sanctuary one week in December. This evening service topic is: kindling the Flame: Luminous Sparks.” Join us for a gathering of song and silence, deep breathing and real connection. We’ll celebrate small possibilities and unlikely hope.

Nov 4th, 8-9pm

Post-worship Post-election Grounding on Zoom

Wherever things stand on the evening of November 4th, we anticipate some folks needing space to check in post-election. After worship on November 4th, from 8-9pm, we’re creating a facilitated space to share hopes, laments, and gratitude, and to have all these things held in

community. You are more than welcome to sit with us even if you don’t want to share, and we will also have our normal social breakout rooms for anyone who prefers that option.

For these two Sanctuary Boston events, you can subscribe to their newsletter or connect on Facebook to receive the Zoom links directly. <http://thesanctuaryboston.org/join-us/>

Nov 5, 12 pm – 3 pm

Drop in with Rev. Jolie on Church Grounds

Masked, social distance event to just say hi and enjoy each other’s company as the election results continue to reverberate or roll in. No building/bathroom access. BYO chair. If you think you’ll stop by, RSVP to Rev. Jolie, minister@uusharon.org, so I know how many people to expect and for “crowd control.” I am not shy about reminding us all to keep our masks on and stay 6-10 feet apart J.

Nov 5, 8:00 pm - 9:15 pm

Post-Election Vigil & Community Gathering

More info here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/3713971198666868>

No matter the results of the election this year, we know we will want to gather in community. This gathering will be hosted by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the UUA President, Susan Frederick-Gray. It will be accessible on Zoom, Facebook Live, and YouTube.

Thank you to Rebecca Reid for sending several of these to us!

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE - ON ZOOM!

Sunday, November 22 7 PM

Save the date. Join us for an annual tradition of the Sharon Interfaith Clergy Association. The theme this year is “We Need Each Other: Now More Than Ever.” Temple Sinai will be hosting this event on Zoom. We will send out the Zoom link before the event. Rabbi Randy Kafka of Temple Kol Tikvah is this year’s featured speaker, with clergy participating from many of our diverse Sharon houses of worship. We will conduct a town-wide food drive for the Ilse Marks Sharon/Stoughton food pantry as part of this service. Canned goods and other non-perishables can be brought to the bin outside UCS, and labeled “Thanksgiving.” Contributions to our grocery cards for food pantries program can be made by mailing a check to UCS with “Thanksgiving food pantry donation” in the memo line, or with the same memo online through our [PayPal account](#).

Committee Events and Updates

Monthly Stewardship Chat

As part of our Church's continuing discussion and education on Stewardship, members of the Stewardship Committee will hold a second dialogue session on Sunday, November 15, 2020 from 12:00 noon to 12:30 P.M. This session will discuss generally the various options to support stewarding the church in conjunction with your pledge. No official legal, estate planning or tax advice but ideas and planning that would assist you in the long term support of the church and congregation. Zoom information will be made available the week prior to the event. OPEN TO ALL!

Submitted by Wilbur Edwards

How to send in your pledges during COVID?

In these COVID times when we are not able to meet in person, here are the ways that you can send in your church pledge: 1. Drop off the check at the church. There is a mail slot at eye level on the right if you're standing at the green vestry door under the big stairs outside the front of the church. 2. Send your check yourself through the mail. Our address is: Unitarian Church of Sharon, 4 N Main St, Sharon, MA 02067 3. Go to your bank account online and set up a bill payment to be mailed to the church, or as a direct deposit. Please reach out to treasurer@uusharon.org for the direct deposit account numbers.

Submitted by Karen Zelevinsky, Treasurer

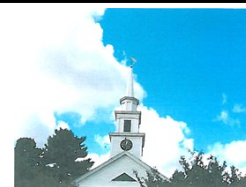
Interim RE Assistant

While we were saddened at the resignation of our Administrative Assistant Leslie Cox this past summer, we are pleased to announce that Katie Byron, our Youth Coordinator has accepted the position of Interim Religious Education Assistant. This will allow us to better meet the unique programming demands of this time while simultaneously preparing for a new Assistant for in-person programming when that time comes. As a seminarian, Katie is well-suited to helping us with curriculum development and special projects that meet the educational needs of our congregation program at this time. Katie will also continue to serve in their role as Youth Coordinator. Welcome Katie, for a second time!



Submitted by Christine Bulman, Interim DRE

Conversations At the Meetinghouse



My Canterbury Tales (of New Zealand)

SUSAN MOONEY

STONEHILL COLLEGE PROFESSOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES & STUDIES

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 7 PM

ZOOM LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89724469293>

Meeting ID: 897 2446 9293 Password: 3652

Sue Mooney finally “studied abroad” in 2019, and especially enjoyed three weeks walking in and around Christchurch, the capital of the Canterbury region of the South Island of New Zealand. Sue will share photos and excerpts from her essays based in her experiences in Canterbury, weaving environmental science and human stories together. Likely material shared during this talk includes tracing the impacts of the 2011/12 earthquakes by following a river from its headwaters to the sea, considering New Zealand’s efforts to be free of invasive animals by 2050 while planting native species with an eco-restoration group, and gleaning insights into New Zealand culture along the way.

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

November Programs

Book Group\

The November book club selection is *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande. The book was the subject of an episode of Frontline on PBS, and may be available through PBS.org, YouTube, or Netflix.

We meet via zoom at 7pm on the first Wednesday of the month, in the Virtual Library, with occasional breaks for holidays. You don't need to have finished the book, or even started it, to join us - it's likely the discussion will be interesting. You can find the listing on the [calendar](#) as well. Please join us.

Let's Laugh Today

is **EVERY Wednesday at 7:30pm on ZOOM!**

Let's Laugh Today Laughter Club is on ZOOM! In these challenging times, there is nothing like a good belly laugh to help release stress and anxiety. These laughter exercises and deep breathing help to bring more fresh oxygen into the body and brain helping you feel more energetic and healthy. It's a great way to connect with other people through eye contact while remaining socially distant and it is thoroughly up-lifting and immunity-boosting! See www.letslaughtoday.com for link to the free ZOOM Meeting EVERY Wednesday at 7:30pm. This is the perfect time to try something new! Please check their website for updates.



Mass Music and Arts Society (MMAS)

As you may know, MMAS has had to modify their season to provide quality theater during these difficult times. Their performances, at least until January, will each have a three performance run with a limited in-house audience. Live streaming will be available for each performance until they are back at full capacity seating. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pat McDougal. There are two virtual shows this month:

Breaking the Shakespeare Code

Nov. 6, 7 at 8 PM and Nov. 8 at 2 PM

Becoming Dr. Ruth (with our own Alice Springer)

Nov. 20 & 21 at 8 PM, Sunday 22 at 2 PM

[Get Tickets Here](#)

Or see the generous offer from the Caring Committee below,

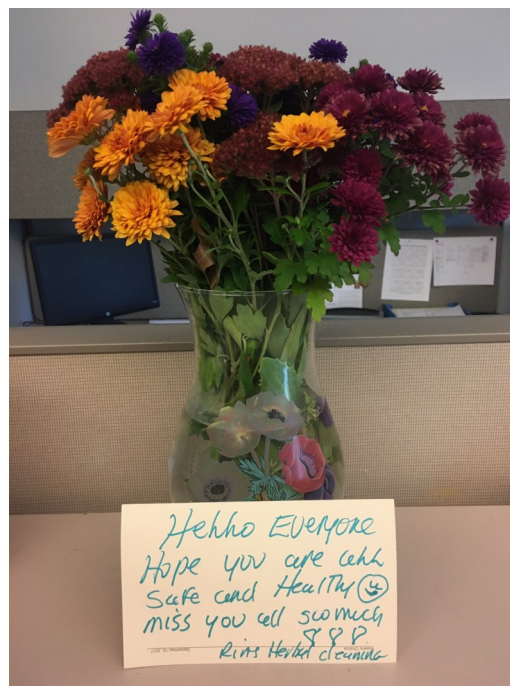
To all members of the congregation of the Unitarian Church of Sharon:

The Caring Committee of the church would like to offer (on a "first, come first serve" basis) the ability to watch in your own home a live streaming performance of *Becoming Dr. Ruth*, starring our own Alice Springer. You probably know of Dr. Ruth Westheimer from her career as a pioneering radio and television sex therapist. This play, *Becoming Dr. Ruth*, is filled with the humor, honesty and the life-affirming spirit of Karola Ruth Seigel, the girl who became "Dr. Ruth."

This production is being offered through the MMAS Black Box Theatre on the following three performance dates/times: Friday, 11/20 at 8:00pm, or Saturday, 11/21 at 8:00pm, or Sunday, 11/22 at 2:00 pm. And the best part is that your ticket will allow you and your family to tune in to watch the production from your own computer in the comfort of your own home. Anyone interested in vying for this free ticket, please email Caring Committee member Evelynne Swagerty at the following email address: Eswagerty@gmail.com. Remember, it's "first come, first serve."

Calendar Link

Check out our Calendar for online events happening this month: <https://www.uusharon.org/calendars/2020-11/>



Vase of flowers and a note from Maria, our custodian left, in the office: Hello Everyone. Hope you are all safe and healthy. :) Miss you all so much. Rias Herbal Cleaning

Religious Education News

From the Interim Director of Religious Education



This past summer I had the pleasure of studying Professional Interim Ministry with the UUA. I was pleased to find that systems thinking, a subject in my graduate studies, was expanded on and applied to ministry; yet upon entering, my intellectual insight faltered a bit. The course was attended not

only by religious educators but also by music directors, ministers, executive directors, membership staff, and administrators. At first, I was apprehensive about the “generality” of the course, thinking that if it wasn’t solely focused on religious education ministry, that I would emerge from the course lacking something. Oh, that rugged individualism. Continued presence brought me back to what I already knew. When there is a change in one part of a system, it reverberates through the whole system and is felt in all of the other parts of the system. We are all interconnected. A significant change in the religious education program means a significant change within the church as a whole.

Change is ever-present. That is why in this course, professionals could attend even if they were not serving in an interim capacity themselves, even if their church was not currently in a time of transition. We can expect change and we can work with change.

There are certain phenomena we can expect during periods of transition. There is grief at a loss of the status quo that was built by hard work and dedication, there are instability and fear, and there is limbo. I think of this as the ebb in the cycle of ebb and flow. We cannot stay there indefinitely. Time marches on, needs must be met and reorganization around those needs is a given. The way forward becomes clear. Moving into a flow, the work begins anew. Know this: it is what we do during the ebb and flow of change that determines the character and quality of the coming cycles and as your congregation's current interim professional, I am here as a guide in that work. Louise Marcoux's long-tenured and outstanding dedication to the religious education program at the Unitarian Church of Sharon has an impact on the entire congregation in one way or another. Likewise, her retirement will have far-reaching effects. I am convinced that within this challenge lies the map for renewal and rebirth of the religious education program. It will be a program built upon a strong foundation, with a well-articulated philosophy, and an adaptive ability to guide and accompany the faith formation of young Unitarian Universalists for years to come.

A part of my charge here is to tend to the operations of the religious education program, a unique challenge at a

time like this, with face-to-face, in-person programming suspended. There is no question this will go down as a strange and dark time in the history of this church. But perhaps there is a gift in this that can be put toward our interim work together. Because in this darkness, we can kindle a fire and pull up a seat as the light of the flames flickers across our faces. We can pause, listen to the crackling of the fire, and we can tell stories; stories about what brought us here and about what inside us has been met, nourished or ignited. As we devote our attention to the past - not only of the religious education program but of congregational life in general, our joys and our sorrows will have the opportunity to surface and be witnessed. And perhaps in that process, a spark will ignite that will begin to illuminate the way forward. I invite you to attend one of the story-sharing events on the calendar over the coming weeks. I hope that you will attend, for the simple acts of sharing one's story and receiving the story of another are deeply healing and restorative. As nature moves into its quieter, darker months of dormancy, may we too take advantage of those things that restore us.

In Faith,

Christine

dre@uusharon.org

Story Sharing Events

Sharing stories of our collective past is a powerful means of navigating the journey through changes brought on by Louise Marcoux's retirement. It will allow us to reflect on what's most meaningful to us, express sorrows or regrets, to celebrate our accomplishments, and to begin to see what's next. Whether you are the parent or caregiver of a child in the religious education program or not, your stories are important and you are invited. Let's circle around the glow of a virtual fire and share some stories.

Friday, **November 20** @ 7:30pm

Sunday, **November 22** @ 1:00 pm (Following the service on this topic)

Religious Education News, continued

Soulful Home

A monthly feature for families inspired by the Soul Matters themes we're exploring at UCS this year.

November: Healing

Raising a Child of Healing Together and the Soulful Parts of Parenthood

Consider creating space with other supportive adults in which to share realizations, challenges and hopes around the theme this month. Bring these questions with you when the time comes to hang out with your co-parent, friends, or even your journal. Don't treat the questions as a list to go through one by one. Instead pick the one or two that speak to you the most. Treat the questions like doorways inviting you into the world of storytelling and memory.

Questions

- How is it for you to watch your loved ones go through the process of healing?
- What role do you play in your family's healing?
- What collective harm or hurt does your family still need to heal from?
- What gets in the way of our healing?
- How does your faith feature in your healing?
- Whose healing is a priority for you?
- What healed when you became a parent?
- What healing work did you do that spared your children harm or hurt?
- Is there a childhood wound that you're still working to heal?

YOUTH GROUPS

Senior Youth Group

SYG meets on Sundays from 5-6:30pm over Zoom. This month we'll be watching silly videos, playing games, and continuing to navigate these changing times. Senior Youth Group is open to any and all individuals in grades 9 - 12 and folks are encouraged to invite friends! Past SYG Zoom meetings have involved watching videos, celebrating quarantine birthdays, and playing a lot of games together!



Junior Youth Fellowship Group

JYFG meets once a month and is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in our congregation. Our November meeting will be on November 15th from 1-2:30pm on zoom. We'll be experimenting with a zoom movie viewing!

Call for Youth Advisors

Looking for something to do Sunday evenings? Want to bring some play into your week? Senior Youth Group depends on adult volunteers to serve as youth advisors. You do not need any special skills, just a willingness to come hang out with us on zoom one Sunday a month and play some games. If you might be interested in serving in this way, please email Katie at yc@uusharon.org.

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.



Chalice Home

Need to carve out some sacred space in your home? There are still some Chalice Home boxes left that will help you stay connected to your faith during this time. Check the weekly What's Happening in RE for in-person events where you can pick one up.



First snow - 30th October 2020

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS



In an effort to streamline communications and be more efficient and current with ever changing details, we encourage you to visit the UCS website (uusharon.org) for all the latest news and updates on what's happening at church.

The Social Justice pages are a great source for the most up to

date information on events, opportunities to engage, resources, and for links to partner organizations and groups that we collaborate with in our work.

Brown Envelope donations



The Brown Envelope collection in September (3 Sundays, post-Labor Day) raised \$511.14 for our **Partner Church in Gyulatkuta, Transylvania**. An additional \$500 in the church's annual budget to support their work resulted in \$1,011.14 being sent this year. The money we

raised 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 projects. They are enormously grateful for this support.

The **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)** is the Brown Envelope offering recipient for October (uus.org). The UUSC, an independent nonprofit organization committed to defending human rights and working against injustice on a variety of fronts at home and abroad, collaborations with and supports an international community of grassroots partners and advocates. The UUSC's current funding effort seeks to help deliver critically needed assistance to those affected by this year's devastating hurricane season, and provide continued long-term support for other climate emergencies.

This Thanksgiving Season, Share Your Table with a 'Guest' in Need



Guest at Your Table collection box and human rights calendar

Table" program gives us a way to remind us of these blessings and to share our gratitude with small acts of

Thanksgiving may be different this year, with fewer friends and relatives crowded around our tables, but it's still a season of gratitude. Unlike many others in the world, we have secure homes, enough food, and freedom from fear and violence. The UU Service Committee's annual **"Guest at Your**

generosity, by keeping a donation box on our tables through Thanksgiving.

Our UUSC partner organizations in Central America are working to make sure no one is forced to flee their home due to violence or economic devastation. Our partners in Alaska, Louisiana, and the Pacific are fighting for their homes and ancestral lands against the ravages of extractive industries and climate change. And our partners in Burma, Bangladesh, and beyond are working tirelessly to support the rights of the Rohingya ethnic minority of Burma after facing government backed genocide in their homeland. These struggles for human rights are represented by four 'guests': Suja Karimuddin, a Burmese Rohingya exile building a refugee community in Malaysia; Adela Ramirez, supporting those who've been deported back to Guatemala; Chief Shirelle Parfait-Dardar, working to save her tribe's lands and livelihood in Louisiana, and Mark Stege, a Marshall Islander trying to protect his homeland from advancing climate change. You can learn more about their work and see interviews with them at <https://www.uusc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/GAYT-2020-21-Stories-of-Hope.pdf>

You're invited to pick up a donation box and human rights calendar pad in the outer foyer of the church or in the outdoor food pantry collection box to the left of the entrance. Or you can make your own box with a template found at <https://www.uusc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Template-for-homemade-GAYT-box-2020-21.pdf>

At the end of November, you can count up the money and send a check to the UUSC with the form provided on the box, or you can send a check to the Unitarian Church of Sharon with the memo 'Guest at Your Table,' and we'll be sure it gets to the UUSC. We'll honor our partnership with these human rights advocates again at our Nov. 30 worship service on 'Gratitude.' Warm thanks for your participation from the Social Justice Committee



Our 'regular' Brown E recipient this November will be the **Gifts for Kids** program, an annual effort to support regional families in economic distress during the holiday season (www.giftsforkidsma.org). Due to Covid-

19 restrictions, the tradition of hosting specific children and their wish lists has become a fundraising effort that will allow our community support agencies to help individual families shop for their children this holiday season. If you gave to the program in past years, you likely have received a donation request in the mail. This year, please consider a donation to this worthy program (established 30 years ago by our own Pat McDougall!), by either sending a check to the church, using our [Pay-Pal portal](#), or sending a check directly to GKF. Thank you for your generosity.

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continued

Black Lives Matter & Racial Justice

Racial injustice is deeply rooted in our culture, and the ongoing work for social justice calls us to examine this problem in all its complexity. This fall Reverend Jolie, the SJC and the congregation are undertaking long hard looks, both within and beyond our doors, as we struggle to overcome racism on our path to building a Welcoming Congregation rooted in the concept of Beloved Community. The work is difficult, and progress will come in small steps, but we are working in collaboration with other like-minded organizations here in Sharon and beyond. Please check the church website (uusharon.org) for the latest information about workshops, trainings, suggested readings and other opportunities to lean into this challenging topic.

Following the service on **November 8th**, please reserve time to gather virtually at 1pm for an open discussion on the sermon topic: [Confronting Racism, Finding Healing](#)



SUNRISE Movement speaks out: pictured is an outdoor, socially-distant gathering by Blue Hills Hub members of the youth-led SUNRISE Movement. In this picture are signs the youth made about Indigenous Peoples Day. Over the past year, members of the Social Justice Committee have served as adult allies to support activities related to environmental justice. The Blue Hills Hub youth and adult allies wrote and mailed over 400 Get Out The Vote postcards.

Sharon Interfaith Action & Public Education

Conversations on Race and Equity in Public Schools: Teachers, parents, students and all other concerned people — we would like to hear what con-

cerns you about equity and justice in public schools, either in Sharon or the broader community. What do you see as a problem in the relationship between racism and schools? What are you most concerned about? Sharon Interfaith Action (SIA), an organization that promotes justice through grassroots organizing, has begun a Listening Campaign to hear from members of UCS. We invite you to reach out to Janet Schmidt or Ellen Schoenfeld-Beeks or Kate Parker-O'Toole to arrange small group chats or one on ones. We value your input!

Covid-19 Mask-making Effort continues

Masks for adults and children are still needed in numerous locations. Requests are being filled for the Brockton schools and community, Nathan Hale School in Roxbury, Brockton Emergency Room, Pembroke Psychiatric Hospital, and some area nursing homes. Our Five Points Cluster mask-making team is deeply committed to this work, and needs more volunteers to make masks. Materials, instruction and a how-to video available. Contact Elizabeth Siftar to volunteer or for more information. esiftar@gmail.com

[Note: last spring, the SJC voted to reserve \$500 of our discretionary funds to support the evolving need for masks and related Covid supplies in Brockton when these critical items were hard to obtain. The demand remains, but existing efforts to fill the need have been effective, and the reserved funds are no longer needed as intended in Brockton. The SJC will continue to consider how best to utilize our limited resources in these troubled times.]



Music in times of pandemic:

Jeff Tucker on fiddle, David Schoenfeld on banjo and a community member from Sharon on guitar perform almost every Sunday from one to three to usually an audience of one and a dog, and sometimes a gardener!

Social Justice NEWS, continued



Green Team Portfolio

Here is a new statement about the Green Team's role in the life of the church, which can be found on the SJC webpages. Some (organic?) food for thought:

Our congregation is increasingly concerned about stopping and reversing the environmental damage we are causing our planet. We strive to educate ourselves, our congregation, and our community about living more sustainably. This messaging is reflected in Sunday services, Religious Education classes for our youth, monthly Conversations at the Meetinghouse programs, and regular meetings (pre-covid) on dealing with environmental stress and anxiety. We make our facilities available to local environmental groups such as the youth-based Sunrise movement. Our weekly Brown Envelope collection often targets environmental justice groups such as UU Mass Action. The Social Justice Committee also sponsors environmental/environmental justice lobbying efforts of local, state, and federal lawmakers. We form a supportive, active community for crucial sustainability issues, such as protecting Sharon's Rattlesnake Hill land from development.

Our Green Team (GT) tackles our own congregation's carbon footprint. GT evaluates and improves sustainable church practices during congregation get-togethers of all shapes and sizes, including our tableware usage (plates, cups, utensils, napkins), refreshment sources (water pitchers in place of plastic water bottles!), our recycling and composting habits. The Green Team also shares various practical environmental information with our congregation, including Green Tips in our weekly Order of Service and carbon reduction solutions from blockbuster Drawdown author Paul Hawken. The Green Team explores concepts such as sustainable personal investing, local farm gleaning, and environmentally responsible diets; it seeks to involve families in sustainable eating and growing practices. The Social Justice Committee and the Green Team work closely with other congregation groups. For instance, building alterations and expansion sub-committees work with the GT to ensure climate and carbon reduction concerns are integral to the discussion.

We will continue to expand our web of sustainability knowledge, connections, and practices, drawing upon our congregation's strength and expertise, other UU organizations, and our local community to save the only planet we'll ever have.

Fair Trade Event in Pictures



"Paper or Plastic?" Pre-packed Fair Trade goodies ready to be picked up at the monthly SJ Marketplace: yummy treats, but what about all that plastic? We heard you, and are now working to prepare orders with reused, recycled and recyclable packaging.



Fair Trade Event: Seasonal volunteer workers harvest, package and deliver to your car window chocolate and coffee for your sustenance needs; mark November 18th as your next chance to stock up on SJ Fair Trade goods and Shopping for Justice grocery cards.



Fair Trade Event: The SJ Marketplace in October included a chance to browse and borrow racial justice titles from the church library, and a chance to chat with Rev. Jolie. Weather permitting, we will continue to offer these resources each month.

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continued



November Brown Envelopes: Gifts for Kids 2020

Have you been dreaming about being an elf for the holidays? The Gifts for Kids Program, which began 30 years ago by our own Pat McDougal, matches children in need with sponsors to provide gifts for the holidays. Over 1,200 children are on the list this year that were identified by social service agencies in Norfolk County, and we need your help more than ever. **We are unable to match donors to individual children or provide gifts to families this year. Instead, we will be providing gift cards to our affiliated social service agencies that will distribute them to families. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are asking for monetary gifts so that GFK can purchase gift cards at a discount, stretching your dollars even further.** You can make a donation through the church website, or go directly to www.giftsforkidsma.org. Your generosity will help make a child's holiday brighter. Thanks! (Questions? Contact Alison Reid at alisonr@giftsforkidsma.org)

Donations to 5 local Food Pantries

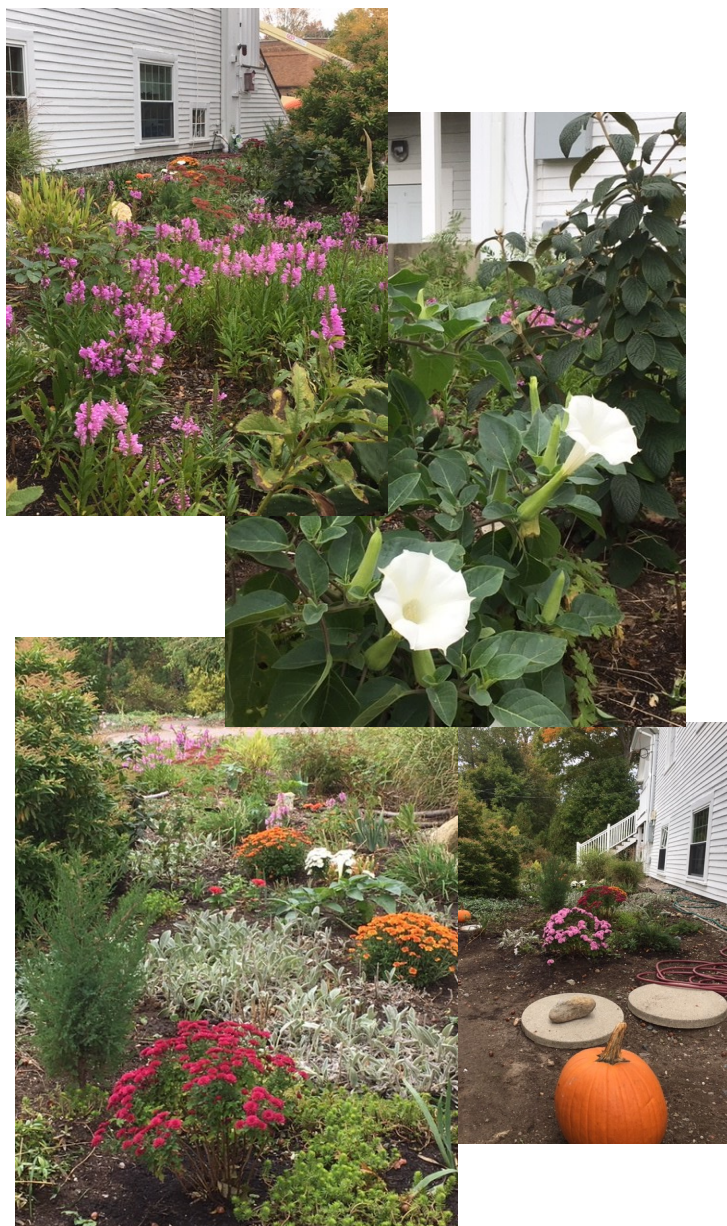
Since the closure of the church building due to Covid-19, the congregation has supported the 5 local food pantries in Sharon and our surrounding towns. Instead of canned goods, we asked for monetary donations that have been converted into grocery cards via our Shopping for Justice program, and we have contributed over \$21,500 since the program was launched in April.

We have also recently resumed collection of canned goods for delivery to the Sharon/Stoughton food pantry, where we have had a long-standing relationship. A 24/7/365 collection bin now sits in the Patio to the left of the main entrance at church, and you are encouraged to drop off canned goods and staples there. All of the pantries are very grateful for our donations of all types, as the need only continues to grow. Please consider a contribution now, and for perhaps many months ahead.

The SJC is working to coordinate additional food pantry donations as part of the **Sharon Interfaith Thanksgiving Service** later this month. We will offer our donation box in the courtyard as a collection center for the town, and will use our PayPal donation portal for gifts as part of the service.

Projects & Opportunities

For the latest news about legislative projects, programs, and other social justice events and opportunities in our area, we recommend signing up for news and alerts from our fellow travelers in the work of social justice: visit UU Mass Action (uumassaction.org), the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry (uuum.org), the Unitarian Universalist Association (uua.org), the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (uusc.org) and the Five Points Cluster, our local UU church group (fivepointscluster.org) to stay current on what other UU's are involved in that need your participation.



Pictures from our fall garden. Submitted by Susan Olson Drisko

BEAN RECIPES! And requesting your COOKIE RECIPES!

Since we didn't get to have our annual Bean Supper this year, I asked for your bean recipes. I got a handful of responses, which I am happy to share back with the community. The Fellowship Committee and I want your COOKIE recipes next! We'll print your favorite cookie recipes in our December *Chalice*, *just in time for holiday baking madness*. Send them to Chelsea Gould, Fellowship Committee Co-Chair: chelsea.c.gould@gmail.com.

John Schumacher's Brazilian Black Bean Soup

Brazilian Black Bean Chili [Soup]

5 - 6 servings

This recipe is vegetarian, but adding chicken or turkey still works – J.S.

✓ (Begin soaking dried beans at least (≈ 1 lb) 2 cups dry black beans, 2 1/2 hours before cooking

(or 3 cans of beans ≈ 4 1/2 cups – rinse well, add beans to saute)

A

1 cup chopped onion
3 cloves crushed garlic
1 large chopped carrot
1 stalk chopped celery
(optional: 1 cup chopped green pepper)
1 tsp ground coriander
1 1/2 tsp ground cumin
≈ 2 tbs olive oil

After rinsing, put in 4 cups water to soak, then pour off excess, and add 2 [3 1/2] cups water (or stock?)

B

2 1/2 oranges, peeled & sectioned [1/3 cup orange juice]
1/2 + tsp fresh lemon juice
1 tbs (-liberal!) dry sherry
1/4 tsp black pepper
1/4 tsp cayenne (or crushed red pepper)

[] Ingredients in brackets when added will make a soup; without them you get a thick stew.

- 1 Bring beans, water & salt to boil, cover and simmer 1 (1/2) hours over very low heat, or until they begin to soften (not mushy).
- 2 Saute' group A, beginning with onions & garlic. If necessary, add a little water to the vegetables to steam them along. When all seems clear and just tender, add to beans. Continue to simmer and soften over lowest possible heat. Be ready to add a few ozs of water at a time, to keep thickness, yet prevent bottom scorching; stir just often enough not to mash de beans.
- 3 Add group B to the soup. Stir, simmer covered, and sit for 10 minutes. Now return to the soup refreshed, and check thickness & 'hotness'.

can serve topped
with sour cream or yogurt

Chelsea's Bean Recipes

Baked beans

Cut 1/2 Lb. Bacon in 1/2 inch slices, cook in fry pan until almost crisp. Remove to paper towel.

Saute 1 Large Onion and 1 or 2 Cloves Garlic, chopped, in bacon fat

Open and drain 1 15 oz. can Butter Beans, 1 15 oz. can Red Kidney Beans and 1 15 oz. can Blackeye Peas

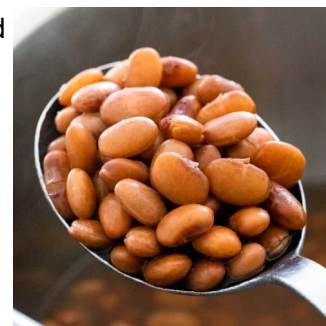
Mix them in large bowl with 1 28 oz. can Campbell's

Pork and Beans, Bacon, Onion and Garlic

Add

3/4 cup Brown Sugar
1/2 cup Cider Vinegar
1 Teaspoon Prepared Mustard
1 Tablespoon Ketchup

Bake covered for 1 hour (or longer) at 350 degrees



Bean salad

Dressing

- 1/3 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

1lb each Green and Wax beans
1 can garbanzo beans
1 can kidney beans

Linda Godfrey-Bailey's Bean Recipe

1 package dried black beans

Salt

Chopped garlic 2 or 3 cloves

Bay leaf

Adobo with pimento seasoning

Water

Empty dried beans into a bowl with 4 quarts of water. Let sit refrigerated overnight. Drain water and rinse beans. Chop garlic. Put large stockpot on stove, put about 6 quarts of water in pot, bring to a boil. Add beans, garlic, bay leaf, about 1 tsp salt, and 1 tsp Adobo. Bring back to a boil, skim off any scum from top. Lower to medium heat, cover pot. Stir occasionally, cook for 1 hour. Check beans for tenderness, if not soft cook 30 minutes more. Remove bay leaf before serving.

Pair with any or all of the following for a nice dinner:

White rice

Roasted chicken

Pan seared minute steak with onions and peppers

Mike and Ker Quinn's Favorite Veggie Chilli Recipe

Mike and Ker shared this link with us - they use this recipe for Veggie Chilli. They tend to cut the recipe in half as it "tends to make a lot."

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/132394/meatiest->



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4 NORTH MAIN STREET
SHARON, MA 02067



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www.uusharon.org