

# the chalice

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**A Welcoming Congregation  
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## MARCH WORSHIP SERVICES

### THEME: COMMITMENT

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

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

### March 7 All In, All Together

This Sunday marks the kickoff of pledge month. It has been just about a year since we closed our building due to the pandemic. Our congregation has made it this far through this time, adapting and staying strong as best we can, and it is only because of all the time, talent, and treasure we have all committed to one another. As we look ahead to what's next, let's promise to stay all in, all together.

### March 14 Migration is Beautiful

*Six Sources Series: Words and Deeds of Prophetic People*

All month we are taking a Brown Envelope collection to support two organizations providing humanitarian relief to people impacted by the US/Mexico border and US immigration policies: Kino Border Initiative and No More Deaths. Our worship service today will allow us to dig deeper into this topic. Today's service is the third in our monthly six sources series; we will draw inspiration from the "words and deeds of prophetic people" as we reflect on migrant justice.

### March 21 Chalice Circle: Giving From the Heart

This lay-led service continues the monthly theme of Commitment and the Annual Pledge Campaign. We'll start with a Testimonial from a Member and Steward of the Unitarian Church of Sharon describing why they make a financial commitment to our congregation. Chalice Circles give us an opportunity to be in conversation with each other. We will share why we give our "time, talent, and treasure" to help individuals and organizations in



need, not just the Unitarian Church of Sharon. What and why are you inspired to give? How do the UU Principles guide your giving journey? We look forward to sharing and listening.

### March 28 Senior Youth Group Service on Commitment

On the first Sunday of Passover, join our Senior Youth Group for an exploration of what the Passover story can teach us about our March theme of commitment.

*Photo credit: Carol Lundeen, church neighbor and frequent visitor snapped this photo of a native shrub, Winterberry, which provides food for birds and small mammals in the wintertime.*

## From the Minister



Dear ones,

We are rounding a momentous corner, now that it's March. It was a year ago this month that we moved church online and pressed "pause" on gathering together in person. When I

think back to those first conversations with our Board of Trustees, I am amazed to remember that we initially closed for only two weeks. None of us could have possibly known what was in store. What a long time two weeks of pandemic shutdown felt like back then! And then in September, we passed another milestone: the amount of time I have ministered to you all in person was surpassed by the months of virtual worship, distance visits, phone calls, and Zoom meetings. These are sad milestones, but there is beauty and strength amidst the difficulty. You all have worked hard to take care of each other, to adapt, and to keep our church community vibrant. And even though it has been a year since I've hugged you, held your hand, or sung out loud alongside you, I feel as close to you all as ever - closer than before, really, as we've had to weather some serious storms together. The gravity of the losses we have sustained as a country and as a world over this past year pulls hard. As we try to take it all in, we might feel overwhelmed with grief or anger or helplessness, or we might feel numb. Let us strive instead to stay present, to stay in touch with our humanity, to keep connecting with one another and with that which we call holy. And when any one of us is struggling, know this community is here to hold us all.

I want to highlight two important March events. We will kick off our annual Stewardship Campaign when you, the members and friends of this congregation, pledge your financial support for next church year. Our Stewardship Committee has been hosting monthly conversations about different aspects of Stewardship, from the big questions about what it means to be stewards of a religious community, to the details about what your pledge money goes towards. I have loved the conversations I have been able to attend. This month, our Stewardship Committee will host online gatherings, also known as "cottage meetings," to talk in small

groups about why we all support this congregation, and to make our new commitments to it. We hope everyone attends one of these cottage meetings - see the online church calendar and [further on this newsletter](#) for dates, times, and how to sign up!

Another March event is coming right up on Sunday the 7th. We have been invited to join a coalition called Building Up People Not Prisons, which is working to stop the construction of a new women's prison in the former Bay State Correctional Facility in Norfolk. On March 7 at 1:30 PM, there will be a virtual symposium to learn more about this effort, and to hear directly from formerly incarcerated women and their loved ones. I am fired up about this, as it is a local issue, and a concrete way to engage with our commitment to dismantling racism. The disproportionate impacts of the prison system on communities of color is one of the primary mechanisms upholding the racialized caste system in the US, and I believe our faith calls us to support decarceration and alternatives to incarceration. I wonder, what questions and concerns do you have about this issue? My hope is this symposium will be a forum for us to learn more. Here is the link to register: [tinyurl.com/nonewprison](https://tinyurl.com/nonewprison). Learn more in the [Social Justice News](#).

Yours in love and faith,

*Rev. Jolie*

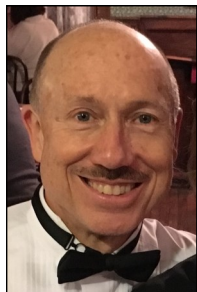
### **Zoom Chats with Rev. Jolie Every Thursday at 10AM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98093769487?pwd=T3ZqM2NwQnVDd3RPUIGLzFvSWZiUT09>  
Thursdays at 10 AM. Log in and share whatever's on your hearts and minds. Join us for this relaxed, friendly, open chat time.

### **REMINDER:**

**Church building is closed until  
April 2021**

## From the President



Green Option for Sharon Power Choice?

Your parish Board of Trustees meets monthly to review business operations and discuss issues in reports/proposals from church members, staff, committees, and outside organizations. The recent offer to residents and businesses from Sharon Power Choice to purchase bulk electricity as a community provides the important environmental advantage of accelerated movement toward using renewable energy. Homeowners throughout Sharon received the same proposal so you may be familiar with the BASIC, STANDARD, and GREEN options associated with this program.

The immediate objective through Sharon Power Choice is to increase the amount of renewable energy in our monthly electricity supply from the current 18% to 38%. This change, which is the STANDARD option, increases annual cost for electricity at our church by roughly \$250. The GREEN option increases the supply of renewable energy to 100% while boosting our annual electric bill up to \$1,000.

We have started preparing the church budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1<sup>st</sup>. Our Green Team (a subcommittee under Buildings & Grounds) is fully committed to "doing the right thing" by committing 100% to renewable energy. They are urging your Board and the congregation to meet the challenges of the climate crisis head on by spending aggressively today to mitigate tomorrow's environmental disasters.

I confess that I parked the offer from Sharon Power Choice for my residence in the file with all the monthly electricity bills thinking happily that I had done my job by accepting the default STANDARD option. What seemed a good enough decision a month ago may be a little shaky at this point. Why? I prided myself in being the among the first to buy a Prius automobile 20 years ago. Consider the same logic when it comes to purchasing electric power. This may turn out not to be the church's choice at this time when we have our debate, but I know that it needs to be mine for 52 Upland.

Rory McGregor

**SHARON  
POWERCHOICE**

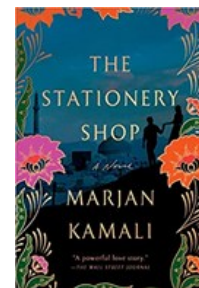
An electricity program from the  
Town of Sharon providing residents  
and businesses with

20% additional  
renewable electricity

## March Programs

### The Not Boring Book Group

For our discussion on Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7pm, the Not Boring Book Group's selection is this year's Town of Sharon One Book, One Town (OBOT) selection, *The Stationery Shop* by Marjan Kamali.



As noted on the OBOT website, the book is "a poignant, heartfelt new novel by the award-nominated author of *Together Tea*—extolled by the *Wall Street Journal* as a "moving tale of lost love" and by *Shelf Awareness* as 'a powerful, heartbreaking story' which explores loss, reconciliation, and the quirks of fate."

Check out the official OBOT activities at <https://onebookonetown.org/>. You don't need to be a Sharon resident to participate in the OBOT activities, all of which are free this year (even the author talk).

You don't need to have finished the book to join the conversation, and you don't need to be a Sharon resident to participate in the OBOT activities, all of which are free this year (even the author talk).

Information about logging into the discussion will be distributed a few days before the event.

Please join us!

### Let's Laugh Today is EVERY Wednesday at 7:30pm on ZOOM!

Let's Laugh Today Laughter Club is on ZOOM for 45 minutes every Wednesday at 7:30pm! 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](http://www.letslaughtoday.com) for link to this free ZOOM meeting and others. This is the perfect time to try something new in 2021!



### Calendar Link

Check out our Calendar for online events happening this month: <https://www.uusharon.org/calendars/2021>



**From:**  
**UCS Safe Re-Open Taskforce**

## Covid Vaccines

(Geared for people who will use Gillette; Call 211 for other locations) from Rev. Rob Ross (edited version)

1. Go to [cic-health.com/vaccines](http://cic-health.com/vaccines). Scroll down to where it says Register Now, and click on the button.
2. The next page asks you to choose a location to schedule an appointment. Options are Fenway Park or Gillette Stadium. For the purposes of these instructions choose Gillette Stadium.
3. The Gillette Stadium page appears. Click on Schedule Now. (You will need to go back to this page when you have scheduled your appointment to click on the link called Gillette Stadium Visit Guide. This contains instructions on how to get to the vaccination site at Gillette.)
4. On the page that appears, don't bother with anything on the 'Find a Vaccination Clinic' fields, since you have already chosen Gillette. Scroll down and you will see dates and available appointments to sign up for. When you find a date that has appointments available, click on Sign Up for a COVID-19 Vaccination. Your second appointment will need to be scheduled at either 21 days (for Pfizer) or 28 days (for Moderna) after your first one, depending on which vaccine you are given.
5. Fill in the fields that ask your name, race, date of birth, email address, phone number, physical address. The fields with stars must be filled in. Click Save and Continue.
6. On the next page for 'Type of Insurance' choose your insurance type. If you have private insurance (through your employer) click Private. If you have Medicare. For 'Insurance Company Name' click type in Medicare.
7. In the next fields, type in your Insurance Medicare ID number, Group Number (if any), First and Last Name, Date of Birth, 'Self' or Spouse as policy holder relation to client (I know this is stupid). For 'Do you have secondary insurance?' answer NO if appropriate. You may be asked to provide pictures of both sides of your insurance card. (or you will have to fill in more unnecessary information and stop to scan or photograph your insurance cards both sides and then download them; you can provide this information when you get the shot). Click Save and Continue.
8. On the next page answer the questions with a star (1st or 2nd vaccination; all other questions should be NO.) Click Save and Continue
9. On the next page click the check box for Moderna (this is what they use at Gillette). Click Sign My Name. Type your name in fields below. Choose 'Self' as relationship to patient. Click Save and Continue.
10. The next page is to review the information. Click Save and Continue.
11. Select the time button with an available appointment. After you select an open appointment you should receive a confirmation letter by email for it. Save this email, you will be asked to show it along with your driver's license and the attestation form on arrival to the vaccination site.
12. Go to [cic-health.com/guide](http://cic-health.com/guide). Go back to the Gillette Stadium page, click on the link to the Gillette Stadium Visit Guide. You will see several links. For 'The day before your appointment' click on Get Ready. It will remind you what to bring. For 'I've arrived at Gillette Stadium, now what?' click on I've parked, what's next? It will remind you again about what to bring in with you. For 'How are you feeling?' click on Take My Health Risk Assessment. Answers to all questions should be NO. Click Submit.
13. On arrival to Gillette Stadium site you will park in lot 22, and enter the stadium following directions from the staff. There is an elevator entrance or a stairs entrance.
14. You will be asked to show your documents to one of the staff, then you will be asked to remove your mask and put on a mask provided, and then wash your hands using hand sanitizer. Then you will be asked to go up to the third floor.
15. On the third floor you will see lines of people separated by ropes and stanchions. One row has chairs for people to sit in while in line. The wait time varies.
16. When you are called, you will be directed to a station with a person who will give you the covid vaccine. They will ask you a few health questions before giving you the vaccine. If you have a preference which arm you want to use, let them know.
17. After your vaccination you will be directed to a waiting area with chairs. You will be asked to wait to be observed for any possible reactions for at least 15 minutes. You will be given an appointment card with the date you will need to schedule your next appointment on it.

## Committee Events and Updates

### Stewardship Committee

#### Stewardship Hosts Canvass Cottage Meetings: All In & All Together

The Stewardship Committee will kick-off the Annual Canvass for the July 2021-June 2022 Fiscal Year on **March 7, 2021**. This year's theme is "All In & All Together". Our objective is to ask members and friends to make a financial commitment to the Unitarian Church of Sharon for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. These commitments allow the Board to plan and budget for the next fiscal year. Since financial pledges are the UCS's most important source of income, this is a vital annual process. With that in mind, the Stewardship Committee will host a series of small group Canvass Cottage Meetings to discuss the following:

What Does Stewardship Mean to You? What Does the Unitarian Church of Sharon Mean to You? What Inspires You? What do You Aspire To? What is the Giving History at the UCS? What is the UUA's Giving Guide? How Can Your Financial Commitment Inspire and help us Aspire to What is Important and Vital?

We'll encourage you to pledge using the on-line form and we'll show you how.

Please join us at one of the six meetings on March 10th (11 am), 13th (9 am), 14th (noon), 17th (11 am), 20th (9 am) and 21st (noon). Each Zoom meeting will last 60 minutes. See the Church calendar at <http://www.uusharon.org> for the Zoom link.

Please RSVP to Peter Raskin at [stewardship@uusharon.org](mailto:stewardship@uusharon.org).

#### Save the Date: March 28th

#### End-of-Pledge Campaign Celebration (Drive-Through)

Since we can't celebrate the end of the pledge campaign with a delicious lunch this year, the Stewardship Committee has planned a sweet surprise for you! Pick up your treat at church (drive-through) on March 28th between 12:30 and 2:00 pm. There's plenty for every member of your family. Don't forget!



### Fellowship Committee

This Saturday, March 6th from 5:00-6:00pm join the youth organizers from Fellowship Committee for an all-ages virtual game night playing **Skribbl.io!**



Scribble.io is a take on the classic game of Pictionary, where you draw and guess in a competition to get the most points! It's a simple online game setup played in an internet browser, which we will explain how to join over zoom. Link to the zoom meeting is in the calendar event.

For folx who are participating in our first ever Church Cheer Gift Exchange, if you are not mailing your gift, please plan to stop by church on Saturday March 6th to drop off your gift (from 11am-12pm) and to pick up your gift (from 12:10pm-1pm). Fellowship volunteers will be out front for socially distanced drive-through drop off and pick up, just drive around the driveway loop.

*Chelsea Gould, Co-Chair*

### Membership Committee

We are very excited to announce that we have completed our first electronic photo directory. The link to the directory has been emailed to you. If you have not received the link, please contact Linda Cveckova, our Congregational Administrator, at [admin@uusharon.org](mailto:admin@uusharon.org) to send it to you.

Please do not share the link outside of our congregation. Once opened in your internet browser, we recommend saving that link as a 'Favorite Bookmark' so you can easily reference the directory in the future (and always get the latest version). You are also welcome to download and/or print it, if you prefer.

Please avoid relying on old copies of the directory you may still have, as many people's contact information has changed.

Yours for our community,  
Rev. Jolie Olivetti, minister  
Linda Cveckova, Congregational Administrator and,  
our UCS Membership Committee

## Religious Education News



### Father Bill's & MainSpring

NOBODY SHOULD BE HOMELESS

#### Join the Bagged Lunch Program at UCS!

We had a wonderful visit from Patrick Ronan of Father Bill's & MainSpring House last Sunday and it was galvanizing! Families are happy to have a way for their children to participate in social justice. This week during school vacation, the Giammaria family made and delivered 20 sandwiches for the Stoughton residence. Thank you to Bella and Cooper for taking the lead!



Bella and Cooper hard at work packing 20 lunches!

Did you know we are already committed to providing 100 sandwiches per month to MainSpring? Join us on Zoom on March 14 at 1pm for a sandwich making party. [RSVP here](#) if you plan to join and we will get coordinated before the event! If you don't want to wait, click [here](#) for more information on the program.

#### RE CALENDAR

**March 14** Bagged Lunch Zoom

**March 21** Junior Youth Fellowship Group

**March 28** Anti-racism Learning and Discussion Group, Youth-led Service

#### Being a Parent: Parents and Caregivers as Sexuality Educators

*...a Saturday morning series for parents of UU children and youth  
2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month*

**Begins Saturday March 13 @ 9 am**

Bodies, relationships, healthy boundaries, sexuality.... from birth into young adulthood, your child will benefit many times over from your guidance. Are you prepared?

Join Our Whole Lives Facilitators Chris Slater and Jon Slavin for this new drop-in series. The first session will cover communication and values in relation to sexuality and beyond that, there are many avenues we can go down! What do you want to explore? Take [this survey](#) to help us tailor the experience.



#### Spring is Coming!

This means we can look forward to seeing each other on the church grounds again. There is a new gardening project starting up that might be great for families with children and youth to get involved with. Gardening and time in nature can offer powerful pathways to connecting with our spirits and our UU values and we can easily craft some religious education programming around this project. See the Green Team's [article under Social Justice news](#) and watch your weekly email for updates.





## Religious Education News, continued

### YOUTH GROUPS

#### Senior Youth Group

SYG meets weekly on Sundays from 5-6:30pm over Zoom and is open to any and all individuals in grades 9 - 12! This month we'll keep checking-in with one another, playing games, planning for the Youth Led Worship Service on March 28th and continuing to support each other through these changing times.

#### Junior Youth Fellowship Group

JYFG meets once a month and is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in our congregation. Last month, the Kinraide family led us in a cooking class to make chili, cornbread, and nutella lava cakes! Our next meeting is March 21st from 1-2:30pm and we'll be checking-in and playing games.

#### Anti-Racism Learning and Discussion Group for people in grades 6-8

*What is all this anti-racism talk and what does it mean to me? What's the difference between not being racist and being anti-racist? Why have people within Unitarian Universalism been calling on UUs specifically to engage in anti-racist work? This group meets once a month and is a place for middle schoolers to talk, learn, and ask questions about race and racism in our UU faith and in the world and how we can build skills for anti-racist work. We'll talk and do activities together to learn about our various identities, the ways racism shows up in our communities and resistance against it, and how we can use our anti-racist lens and voice to make change.*

**4th Sundays 1-2:30pm: Feb 28, Mar 28, Apr 25, May 23, Jun 27**

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:yc@uusharon.org).



### Calling all UCS Middle-Schoolers!

What is all this anti-racism talk and what does it mean to you? What's the difference between not being racist and being anti-racist? Why have people within Unitarian Universalism been calling on each other to engage in anti-racist work?

#### Announcing the Anti-Racism Learning and Discussion Group for people in grades 6-8

This group meets once a month and is a place for middle schoolers to talk, learn, and ask questions about race and racism in our UU faith and in the world and how we can build skills for anti-racist work. We'll talk and do activities together to learn about our various identities, the ways racism shows up in our communities and resistance against it, and how we can use our anti-racist lens and voice to make change.

**4th Sundays 1-2:30 pm  
Feb 28, Mar 28, Apr 25, May 23, Jun 27**

#### Facilitators:

Janet Schmidt and Sue Mooney

*Adapted from UUA Be the Change Curriculum by:*

Christian Roulleau, Katie Byron, Janet Schmidt, and Sue Mooney



## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS



The Social Justice Committee encourages you to visit the UCS website ([uusharon.org](http://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, opportu-

nities to engage, resources, and for links to partner organizations and groups that we collaborate with in our work.

Our year of social distancing and online connections rolls on, and the congregants of the Unitarian Church of Sharon continue to find endless ways to reach out and help those less fortunate as we all struggle through the Covid pandemic. Here are updates of current social justice projects and opportunities:

### Brown Envelope & Related Collections



The January 2021 Brown Envelope donations of \$1,705 were given in support of **Fair Foods** ([fairfoods.org](http://fairfoods.org)), a Boston based organization which for the past 32 years has provided healthy produce to low income families. Our support of Fair Foods will

have a lasting impact on folx struggling to remain healthy and safe in these troubled times.

The February Brown E collection will go to support the work of the **Equal Justice Initiative** ([www.eji.org](http://www.eji.org)), an Alabama based organization led by Bryan Stevenson. The EJI is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting the basic human rights of the most vulnerable people in America. The work of the EJI is the basis for both the book (2014) and movie *Just Mercy*.

In March, the Brown E collection will focus on two organizations working on migrant justice, with donations being split evenly between them. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Kino Border Initiative** - Nogales, AZ & Nogales, Mexico ([kinoborderinitiative.org](http://kinoborderinitiative.org))

- Their Vision: Humane, just, workable migration between the U.S. and Mexico.
- Their Mission: To promote US/Mexico border and immigration policies that affirm the dignity of the human person and a spirit of bi-national solidarity.

**No More Deaths** – a Ministry of the UU Church of Tucson ([nomoredeaths.org](http://nomoredeaths.org))

Their mission: to end death and suffering in the Mexico–US borderlands through a civil initiative of people of conscience working openly and in community to uphold fundamental human rights. Their work embraces the Faith-Based Principles for Immigration Reform.

**'Save the Month': Community building and fundraising coming your way in May:**



**Mother's Day Walk for Peace**

**May 9th, 2021**

Join the Unitarian Church of Sharon Team -  
A Virtual Event

The Mother's Day Walk for Peace is a beloved tradition and celebration of our potential to create more peaceful communities. It is the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's (LDBPI) largest fundraising event to support their services, advocacy and training. We look forward to you joining us online as we continue to demand dignity and compassion for all families impacted by murder. Sunday, May 09, 2021.

Contact: Elizabeth Siftar to sign up  
[esiftar@gmail.com](mailto:esiftar@gmail.com)

### Building Up People Not Prisons Symposium

Sunday, March 7, 1:30 pm on Zoom. Our congregation has been invited to join in an effort to stop a new women's prison from being built in the former Bay State Correctional facility in Norfolk. Join this symposium hosted by Families for Justice As Healing to hear powerful testimonies from formerly incarcerated women and their loved ones, and to learn more about this effort to stop the new prison. Register: [tinyurl.com/nonewprison](http://tinyurl.com/nonewprison).

#### BUILDING UP PEOPLE NOT PRISONS

A VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM TO STOP THE NEW WOMEN'S PRISON IN NORFOLK COUNTY

**SUNDAY, MARCH 7 | 1:30-3PM**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:  
[TINYURL.COM/NONEWPRISON](http://TINYURL.COM/NONEWPRISON)

Join us in a conversation hosted by formerly incarcerated women and their loved ones about Black-led organizing to oppose plans for a new \$50M women's prison in Norfolk County, end the incarceration of women and girls in MA, and reimagine communities where everyone can live in health and safety.





## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continued

### The Green Team, RE and Everybody's New Gardening Project:

### Stackable Planters

Want to learn how to grow healthy local food and reduce your carbon footprint? Adopt a stackable garden tower as a part of a collaborative church-wide growing activity.

We are looking for families, groups of friends, or individuals to fill, plant, and maintain one in a system of stackable planters to be located on the church grounds. Members of the Green Team will be on hand to help your group set up, plant, and hook your tower to the drip irrigation system. Ongoing maintenance will include checking on your plants from time to time and making certain the water reservoir is filled. We hope to celebrate our harvest together in the fall.

Not sure you have a green thumb but want to help out? We will happily accept donations for the upfront costs of the planters, soil, seeds and starts, as well as the irrigation system. For more information, please keep your eye on the chalice for an upcoming Zoom information session that will be held in March or reach out to a Green Team member.



The vertical, modular design of our multiple stacking planters will allow for a small footprint and efficient watering.



**Stackable Planters** - note the overhead drip irrigation system, and the ability to expand upward as well as outward. Our UCS installation will be designed to fit on a small footprint, but also be expandable as our experiment evolves.

### Green Energy at UCS and Climate Justice: A 'Hot' Topic

The Green Team, the Board of Trustees, and numerous other stakeholders are currently involved in a far-ranging conversation about the nature of the electrical service provided to the church. Sharon has recently offered its residences and businesses an option for the level of renewable sourcing of the electrical power that we pay for, from an 18% **Green Basic** service, 38% **Green Standard**, or a 100% **Power Choice Green** level, each with its own price points. Stay tuned for more discussions, and a possible congregational survey, as we explore this critical climate justice topic together. How do we decide to pay for our utilities and what defines our carbon footprint as we eye the future of the planet? How might our decision influence similar choices by other houses of worship, businesses, and residents of Sharon and other towns?



### Hold the date: Social Justice Fair Trade Marketplace on 17 March 2021

Plan on picking up your pre-ordered Fair Trade chocolates and coffees, Shopping for Justice grocery cards, and dropping off Food Pantry donations at our monthly Fair Trade Marketplace in front of the church, 3-5pm on March 17th.

Our donations to the Food Pantries got a creative boost this month, when **Elaine Price** found a way to inch us closer to the good ol' days of First Friday Potlucks, when we could share food and conversation; here is her brilliant, thoughtful offer:

*"The list is so long for the things I miss sharing with our UCS community. High on the list is the monthly potluck dinner. I miss sharing a meal with friends and bringing cakes/desserts to these dinners. I've got an itch to bake but need to share it. Here's my idea - **I bake and if you want the cake just make a donation to the food pantry.** I will offer two cakes a week. First two who reply to my email will receive the cakes. I do home deliveries."*

Watch for a weekly offer via the UCS Social email list for one of Elaine's baked wonders in exchange for a food pantry donation (staple food items or funds for grocery cards). Can you think of a better way to stay connected? To subscribe for the list send an email to

[Social-subscribe@lists.uusharon.org](mailto:Social-subscribe@lists.uusharon.org)



A baked treat a la Elaine Price:  
Ginger Peach Crumb Cake

## ***SJ NEWS, continued***

### **MainSpring House Lunch Making A New Approach....**



Skip on over to an [article on page 6](#) hear about ways RE is looking to connect households to our commitment to feeding the homeless in our community. Ever since Covid shut our doors the SJC has maintained our

monthly 100 bag lunch project, but we are looking for individuals, families, or pods that can work in tandem to support this program, especially in this time when so many are suffering from hunger and homelessness. See where you might find a role as we explore this work together.

And did you happen to catch this bit of Facebook buzz? A recent article showcased the story of a woman who was committed to supporting a French jam maker whose founder was purported to have hidden Jewish families from the Nazis near Paris during World War II. There is some controversy about the truth of the story (the source is Facebook after all...), but it just so happens that we have been using that very brand of jam for our MSH lunches for many months. If it is a true story, that is a nice touch, if not, well, the jam still makes a very good lunch for the folk in Brockton!

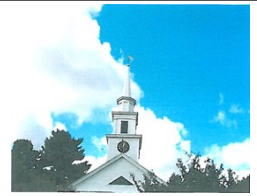


### **An Invitation: Sharon Interfaith Action**

Sharon Interfaith Action has a mailing list, which was initiated during a 2017 Immigration Forum held here in our Sanctuary. As a community organizing group, SIA sends messages of action items or events that support local movements in racial or economic justice. Upcoming, important community events need our support; one, the March 7 Symposium on rejecting building a new women's prison, and two, future action toward supporting Cultural Competency in Sharon schools. Please consider joining the list (shared with no one and sent relatively infrequently) Signup by contacting me by email. And thank you!

[Ellen@schoenfeld.com](mailto:Ellen@schoenfeld.com)

## **Conversations At the Meetinghouse**



## **Biophilia and Ecophobia The Push and Pull of our Relationship and Connection with Nature**

**SHAWN MORIARTY,**

Education Coordinator, Moosehill Wildlife Sanctuary

**FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 7 PM**

**ZOOM LINK:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6525468701?pwd=b2JuMlI5TVJzWTNHZ2ZyUzVYcFh1dz09>

Meeting ID: 652 546 8701 Password: 3652

With so many more people seeking time outside during this pandemic, there is a good deal of tension between people needing time in nature and the fears or concerns people can have about the hazards that are, or we think are in nature.

Shawn Moriarty has worked in summer camps and outdoor education centers for 35 years. Shawn, a resident of Sharon, is the education coordinator and camp director at Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary.



Conversations at the Meetinghouse is a monthly program held on the first Friday of each month (December 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***