

THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011



April Services



April 3

One Heart, One Mind: What Do You Stand For? – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*
What's your personal mission statement? We'll consider this philosophical question within a Unitarian Universalist framework.

April 10

Righteous.Everyone.Voluntary.Opportunity.Leaders.Unify.Transition.Imagination.Onward.Now.
A worship service created and led by the UUCSC Senior High Youth Group.

April 17

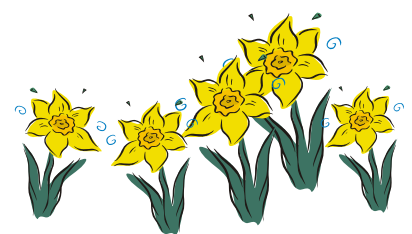
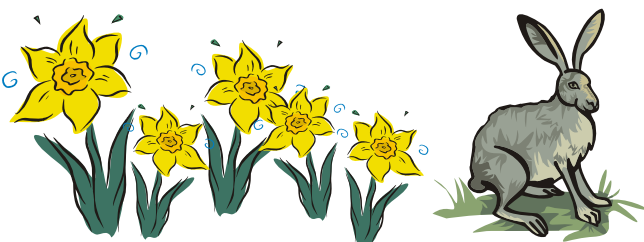
Our Seventh Principle: "The Interconnected Web of Existence of which we are a part." – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*
As Unitarian Universalists we are dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the planet. On this Earth Day, how are we living the spirit of our Seventh Principle?

April 24

Easter: A Wider View – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Debby Hedison, & the Children of UUCSC*
This is an Intergenerational Easter Service that focuses on our questions about Easter. All ages are welcome, and nursery care will be available.
An Easter Egg Hunt follows the service.

May 1

The Animal World: Another View of the Interconnected Web – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*
An Intergenerational Service
All ages invited to bring their stuffed animals for a blessing. We'll ask what the animals can teach us about being human. We'll be called to remember that humans are an animal species too. Perhaps if we learn to understand animals, we can restore the planet we all share.
This service will include a New Member Welcoming Ceremony.



OUR HOME IS AT LILY PADS PROFESSIONAL CENTER, 27 NORTH ROAD, PEACE DALE, R.I.



THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

PUBLISHED ELEVEN TIMES A YEAR

KAREN R. ELLSWORTH, EDITOR ♦ VAL FOLLETT & GERRE ALDERWICK, PUBLISHERS

DEADLINE: THE 20TH DAY OF EACH MONTH

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

www.uusouthcountyri.org

OUR HOME IS AT LILY PADS PROFESSIONAL CENTER, 27 NORTH ROAD, PEACE DALE, R. I. 02879

(401) 783 -4170 • uucscri@yahoo.com • <http://www.uusouthcountyri.org> David Crockett, Webmaster

Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Minister

Services and Children's Religious Education on Sundays at 10 a.m.

*We welcome all individuals without regard to race, color, physical challenge,
sexual orientation, age, or national origin.*

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Michael Galib, Music Director

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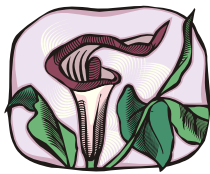
Contact Information for Rev. Betty Kornitzer

Regular Office Hours – Wednesdays 3 to 6 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays: 9 a.m. to Noon,
and other times, all by appointment. Days off are Monday and Tuesday.

Office Telephone (non-urgent calls) – 284-3321 Cell Phone (urgent calls) – 932-1515

E-mail (very effective) – bkornitzer@aol.com

A note about office hours: For the most part I will be in my study during these posted office hours, though other scheduled activities sometimes call me away. If you'd like to stop by, it's a good idea to call the minister's study phone (284-3321) to confirm that I am in. I am also available at many other times by appointment.



The Minister's Message

By Rev. Betty Kornitzer

How Do We Make Decisions?

Occasionally a congregant asks me how we, as Unitarian Universalists, make decisions. Where do we get our guidance? The good news is that we are not rudderless, not at all. As people of faith, we have resources to deepen and enlighten our decision-making process. Our personal discernment is informed and supported by the Seven Unitarian Universalist Principles.

We've been exploring these principles on Sunday mornings this year. These principles are not merely interesting reading material or a topic for a nice poster in the library; they are suggested guides for living. So when we have challenging decisions to make, we can remember that as UUs we want our decisions and our lives to affirm and promote these principles:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

As a congregation, UUCSC uses these principles and has additional support in decision-making. Our Mission Statement was developed by our congregation, and was reaffirmed by a congregational vote in 2008. In our own voices, this statement proclaims UUCSC's purpose. All congregational decision should be made through the lens of our Mission Statement. We ask ourselves: "Does this decision support our mission?" Here's the statement:

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County (UUCSC) is a welcoming, loving spiritual community practicing Unitarian Universalist principles. We offer a safe, respectful environment for personal and spiritual growth for children and adults. The UUCSC serves as a resource for social and environmental action and peace.

So, dear friends, as Unitarian Universalists, and as a congregation, we have clear spiritual guidance in decision-making. The principles are hanging on the wall in our library, and the Mission Statement is in the Community Room. Let's make use of these important resources.

Blessings, Peace and Love,

Betty

The Ballou Channing District
Spring Conference

"ASKING THE BIG QUESTIONS
- Moving Our Faith Forward"
Saturday April 30
Sharon, Mass.
Register now at
www.bcduua.org

"Spiritual Deepening: An Introductory Series for Unfolding a Soulful Life"

This series facilitated by Christine Phoenix-Green and Rev. Betty Kornitzer meets the third Wednesday of each month. On Wednesday, April 20 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary, the topic will be "Creating Altars." All are welcome to attend any of the programs; prior attendance is not required. Pre-registration is very helpful, although not required. Please e-mail Christine Phoenix-Green at cphoenixrising@earthlink.net.

The President's Letter

As we head into spring (finally!), it makes me think about things that will be coming up in the next several months besides the fun stuff like music and discussions. We also have the pledge drive, nominations for board positions, our budget, by-law changes, personnel contracts, and the annual meeting, among other items. This is all part of running a congregation.

As Unitarian Universalists we usually don't like to talk about money. But it is money that keeps our beloved UUCSC running. Like any household, we have many expenses, especially since we "own our own home." Please give what

you can and send in your pledge



card as soon as you can. We need to prepare the budget for next year and plan.

On a related topic, our heating bills have been very high. While oil prices are rising, we have also noticed that the heat in the

community room has not always been turned down to 55 degrees. If you are using a room for a meeting or some other event, please make sure that the heat there is turned down when you leave.

This past Sunday, our congregation had the pleasure of witnessing Deanna Camputaro's Human Creativity dance and drumming troupe. These talented students from Central Falls High School performed Latin and African dances. It was inspiring and uplifting.

Thank you, Deanna, and thank you, Human Creativity!

— Charlie Donnelly

It's time for the Big Event(s)!

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this Spring's big fundraiser, Dining for Dollars. At this event, members and friends of our congregation host dinners, movie nights and other food-oriented entertainment and the church auctions off the seats at the table. Each seat at the table is auctioned individually. This creates a mix of people, and is a great opportunity to meet other folks in the congregation by either bidding (successfully) on events or hosting one.

The rules governing the event are printed on the inside of the bid booklet



and this year, bidding will begin after services on April 10th and will close after services on the 17th. It is important that bidders monitor their bids and adjust them if someone bids a higher amount. If a bidder wants to attend an event and is willing to, the "It's Yours" bid assures them a seat at the table. The events for our first Dining for Dollars auction are terrific and offer a wide variety of choices. This time we

have two family events— the bidding for these are per family.

Another addition to this year will be our raffle. Tickets for two places at the event of the winner's choosing will be raffled off on the 17th. Tickets can be purchased on both days of the auction for \$20 each. Places at the table for these events will make great gifts for Mother's and Father's Day, special anniversaries or birthdays, or for a group of friends who just can't find the time to connect. Pick up your bid book, plan on participating and help the congregation meet its financial goals while enjoying an occasion of good food and great company. — Nancy Rose

Coping with Fear

Using Harold S. Kushner's *Conquering Fear: Living Boldly in an Uncertain World* as a point of reference and source of information, the Adult Religious Education Committee will offer a five-session group meeting on April 5 and 19 and May 3, 20, and 27 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

Topics will include "The Eleventh Commandment: Don't be Afraid," "Bigger than Life" (Massive Fear), "Fear of Rejection and Change," "Fear of Illness and Aging," and "Death, Hope and Courage and our Faith Community." Each session will cover one or two fears that the group chooses to discuss. Purchasing the book is suggested but not required. Copies will be available at \$8.

— Peter Himmel



The Music Corner

by Mike Galib, Music Director

Spring is upon us, as is a music-packed month here at UUCSC (and beyond!). The Senior Youth Group has been busy organizing their annual service for April 10, and while they have not yet asked me to play any Nirvana on the piano as at last year's service, from what I've seen so far they'll have some treats up their sleeve for everyone.

Our Easter service on April 24 provides me a wonderful opportunity to use the organ setting on our digital piano (as a side note, you may be amused to know that, while in a delusional state of reverie during one of our meetings, the Music Committee discussed constructing an elevated choir loft, purchasing a 10-foot Steinway grand piano, and overseeing the installation of a pipe organ. We plan on completing these tasks during the next blue moon, though in the interim our trusty digital piano actually suits our needs marvelously!). In addition to the Choir's assortment of descants and modulations to accompany traditional Easter hymns, Debby Hedison and I are very excited to have a group of our younger congregants joining the choir for a couple of hymns and small pieces that day. We started rehearsing with the children after the service on March 27, and

even with just a few 20-minute rehearsals, things are looking fun and fulfilling for everyone involved.

As for the "beyond," I'm quite excited to be performing in the Providence Singers for Carl Orff's majestic *Carmina Burana* (though the amount of blushing you'll do reading the risqué 11th- and 12-century texts would be described as less than majestic). Robert Page, a master choral conductor of our time, has been invited as guest conductor. Considering his 1976 Grammy win for his recording of the piece with Michael Tilson Thomas and the Cleveland Orchestra, it's going to be a wonderful experience to sing under him (although it's good to note we're the two-piano and percussion version, not full orchestra). The piece also has a *coro piccolo*, or small choir, of which I'll be a part, to sing certain of the more agile movements. If you find yourself at the concert on Saturday, April 9, please come and say hello afterwards. More information can be found at the Providence Singers website (<http://www.providencesingers.org/>).

A bit of news to whet appetites: plans are in the works to have a classical concert next fall right in our own sanctuary. A far way off, but an exciting development nonetheless!

Lose some carbon for Earth Day

In an effort to bring global warming and green sanctuary education to the larger congregation, the Green Task Force sponsored a presentation on March 19 called "How to lose 5,000 pounds (of carbon) a month." About 50 people enjoyed a terrific pot luck dinner and heard a challenging and instructive presentation by Michael Sweringen, who illustrated practical ways to reduce consumption and greatly reduce our dependence on carbon-based fuel, and the greater social equity that would result.

A parallel program will take place after services on April 17, when Rev. Kornitzer will be preaching on Earth Day. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend from 11:30 to 12:15. — John Glasheen



Our Prayer Circle

Our prayer circle takes place on the first Thursday of every month from 6 to 6:40 p.m. in the Library. Many of us hold in our hearts a person, pet or a situation for which we have deep concern. This prayer circle will offer a safe and sacred space in which to join in healing prayer. All are welcome. — Betty Kornitzer

A Note of Thanks

I would like to thank everyone so much for all the support you've given me during the illness and loss of my husband John—Betty, for putting together a beautiful service and for all the calls, even when on vacation; Michael for his piano playing; Linda Whyte Burrell and her helpers for their hospitality work after the service; Karen Ellsworth for printing a lovely program; and for all the thoughtful cards, calls, and visits I have received. I feel so fortunate to be a part of this church community. I don't know what I'd do right now without you.

*So very grateful,
Doree Webster*



MONEY MATTERS

The monthly column from the Finance Committee

There are two pertinent items of interest this month. First, the news regarding the loan modification we were able to attain from BankNewport and how it has affected our payment to principle.

Our original interest rate was 6.69%. We now are at 5.75%. The decreased interest payment each month allows us to pay down the principle owed by an additional \$1,023 monthly. We now pay a total of \$1,726 toward principle. Great news!

Second, a new reimbursement procedure has been established.

1. When anyone purchases supplies for the church (for instance, cleaning supplies, office supplies, printed materials), the store receipt must be attached to a form that gives the details of the purchase to our Treasurer and Disbursing Agent.
2. To receive a form, simply get in touch with your committee's Board liaison. Each committee chair knows the liaison assigned to his or her committee.
3. After you have filled out this simple form, give it directly to Virginia Carter or leave it in her folder in the church office.

This procedure should save a great deal of time and energy for those who are purchasing items and also for the people who must allocate the items to the correct expense line item in the budget each month.

Thanks to all of you who will be "testing" this new procedure out with us. Respectfully,

Aline Couture, Finance Chair

Green Task Force members attend R.I. Interfaith Power and Light conference on climate change

R.I. Interfaith Power and Light held its fourth annual conference, "A Social Justice Response to Climate Change," on March 24. Several members of the Green Task Force attended. The conference highlighted programs in many churches and denominations to reduce their carbon footprint and how to bring about change. There was a "low carbon footprint fair" and exhibit, several workshops and a panel discussion. It was both inspiring and stimulating,

suggesting several projects that will complement our own efforts to attain Green Sanctuary status from the UUA. – John Glasheen



General Assembly 2011 in Charlotte, N.C.

UUA General Assembly 2011 in Charlotte, North Carolina will mark the 50th anniversary of the merger of the American Unitarian Association and the Universalist Church of America. Join thousands of fellow Unitarian Universalists from across the country as we remember the persons and events that brought into being the Unitarian Universalist Association in May 1961, to reflect on our denomination's relevant achievements and struggles since then, and to chart new aspirations for the future we are determined to shape.

Amazing anniversary events are being planned, including:

- a party celebration after opening ceremonies on June 22
- a lecture on the past and future of Unitarian Universalism
- a panel discussion on UU social justice history
- a "New Epiphany Revival Show" led by UU composer, writer, and performer Nick Page

There is also a terrific lineup of speakers, including

- Theologian Karen Armstrong, this year's Ware Lecturer
- Rev. Dr. Michael A. Schuler of the First Unitarian Society of Madison, Wisconsin, who will lead the Service of the Living Tradition
- Rev. Jacqui Lewis, Ph.D., author and sought-after speaker on the multiracial/multicultural congregation
- Nina Perales, Southwest Regional Counsel for MALDEF, the leading Latino legal civil rights organization in the U.S.

– Betty Kornitzer

First Tuesday Pot Luck
6 p.m. Tuesday, April 5th
Bring a dish to share.
An evening to get acquainted
and have some fun.



Religious Education News and Events

By Debby Hedison, Director of Religious Education

"....go with Wisdom, go with Wonder...."

*A dream is a seed
The seed of a tree
A tree full of Life
And the things you can be
Your dreams are the windows
Through which you can see
A hint of your future
And the things you will be
Each night when you sleep
You're feeding the seed
The seed of the tree
Of who you will be.*

– Jennifer Genereux Davis

Blessed Spring, Everyone!

Adopt-A-Box – It is up and running! Please find boxes of RE books that you can take home and help get ready for cataloging! All directions are within each box and you can always see me with questions! Thanks in advance for helping!

MUSIC NEWS! Our wonderful music Director, Michael, has offered to work with all our children and youth to learn a song we can all sing at a future Intergenerational service. All children and youth are encouraged to participate . . . what a fun and great opportunity! Practice will be on Sundays from 11:20 to 11:40 in the Sanctuary. The dates are March 27, April 3, April 10, and April 17.

IMPORTANT DATES:

April 10 – Youth Service & Junior Youth host Coffee hour

May 1 – Stuffed Animal Blessing/ Maypole Celebration

May 8 – Child Dedication

June 5 – Bridging and Coming of Age Ceremonies

June 12 – Teacher Appreciation & Family Fun Day

We still need teachers for our final session of Sunday school in May and June. Lots of great things are always happening in RE and, as always, everyone has an invitation to sit in on a class any Sunday to see what's going on and perhaps orientate you for a future "gig" in our classrooms!

If anyone is interested in having a child, youth or baby dedicated on May 8th, or If you wish to learn more about what a Child Dedication is, please see Debby.

If you can help out on May 1 with our Maypole celebration, please let me know. I will be away that day for a memorial service and would love your help!

Soon a survey will be going out to families so that the RE Committee can incorporate your wishes and ideas for next year's programming. If you don't have a child or youth participating in our program but have ideas to share please let me know and I will be sure to get a survey to you! Every voice is important.

Namaste, Debby

New 'Path to Membership' classes begin on April 3

As we do twice a year, Rev. Betty and the Membership Committee will offer classes for those who want to learn more about our faith and especially for those considering joining the congregation. The classes will be held after church on three Sunday mornings in April (the 3rd, 10th and 17th) from 11:30 to 12:30. Child care will be available. If you are interested, please put the following schedule on your refrigerator:

April 3 – Unitarian Universalist History – Rev. Betty Kornitzer, 11:30-12:30 in the nursery
April 10 – Unitarian Universalist Theology – Rev. Betty Kornitzer, 11:30-12:30 in the nursery
April 17 – How our congregation is organized – Membership Committee, 11:30-12:30, middle room downstairs

If you are already a UU and you plan to join the congregation, you don't need to attend the first two classes unless you want to, but it's very important for you to attend the third class. A New Member ceremony, for those who decide to join, will be part of the service on Sunday, May 1. – Val Follett

Committee on Ministry and Sunday worship

As most of you know, the Committee on Ministry meets monthly with Rev. Betty to support her ministry to us, and to share with her feedback we have received from members of our Congregation. Last year, we conducted UUCSC's first Five Year Evaluation and found it to be a powerful tool to tap the wisdom of many members about our ministry. Like the other committees, we have been reviewing the Five Year Evaluation Report to guide our work and revise the Committee on Ministry's portion of our Strategic Plan. In that regard, we have been working closely with our Minister on comments concerning Sunday worship services.

As a result of those discussions about your feedback, Rev. Betty is exploring ways to diversify the content of sermons including more exploration of our UU history. Also, she is involving more of our lay leaders in worship services. She has asked our Pastoral Associates to lead Joys and Concerns, and more training will be offered to members who wish to lead worship services. Receiving your thoughts and suggestions about our ministry is key to fulfilling our role. Please contact Rev. Betty or any member of our Committee about thoughts, concerns or suggestions you may have about our shared ministry.

Respectfully,
Linda Whyte Burrell, Lindsey Crowninshield, and Jean Burke

A report from the Facilities Committee

Here's what we've been working on:

Maintenance:

- Getting bids to repair or replace the flat roof over the administrative offices
- Investigating the cause of ice build-up on the intersecting roofs at the entrance
- Looking for ways to prevent basement flooding (Ed Burrell is in charge)
- Getting bids for repointing and resealing the exterior brick wall of the Sanctuary to stop the interior paint from bubbling
- Seeking alternatives to use of the leaking air conditioning unit over the administrative offices (Chris DePaola is in charge)



Improvements:

- Building a wall to replace the divider in the large classroom
- Installing a faucet in the kitchen that can be used to fill coffee pots (Lisa McHenry is in charge)
- Exploring ways to reduce noise from the Community Room. Peter Migliaccio hung temporary acoustic panels; we are considering sound baffles hung from the ceiling, acoustic panels on the walls, and homosote panels on the walls that could double as bulletin boards.
- Designing new bulletin board space for the Community Room. We have asked each committee for their space requirements.
- Planning more storage space. Several areas in the building could be built out to provide organized storage space, including the oil tank room, the alcove next to the choir, and the landing at the kitchen stairs. We are getting estimates for the cost of materials from volunteers who know how to do the construction.

– The Facilities Committee (Chris DePaola, Patricia Moreau, Tina Toomey, Alice Buckley, and Ed Burrell)

Coming up: more Music at Lily Pads

Friday, April 15

Red Molly with Kristi Martel

Gorgeous three-part harmonies, beautiful songs, guitars, banjo and dobro . . . another great night of music! Tickets are \$15 and are available from Social Events committee members Harry Buffum and Dave Floyd, at Sweet Cakes Bakery in Peace Dale, and at the Alternative Food Co-op, Looney Tunes II and Food for Thought in Wakefield. On-line tickets are available at Brown Paper Tickets (www.brownpapertickets.com). Tickets are selling well, so please consider buying yours before the night of the show.



Friday, April 29

Joyce Katzberg and Jim Page: Changing the World, One Song at a Time

"Joyce has one of the best voices I have ever heard. She is a truly extraordinary person." – Pete Seeger

"Jim's been writing great topical songs for as long as I can remember, bringing his acute wit and wry humor to a host of subjects that can really use both. In the tradition of Woody and Dylan, he cuts right to the heart with music you actually enjoy listening to. I'm a longtime admirer."

– Bonnie Raitt

"Every now and again I encounter a singer who gives me a glimmer of hope."

Jim Page carries the light." – Christy Moore

Two very special singer-songwriters bring songs of social justice and peace to the Lily Pads stage in an evening of music sponsored by the Common Ground and the other Social Justice committees, and by South Kingstown Justice and Peace Action Group. We'll have a potluck dinner, followed by a set by our friend Joyce Katzberg and a set by Jim Page, who is from Seattle. Local activists will have the chance to share information and network, and we'll all share food, drink and music that envisions a better world. Tickets \$10 in advance or at the door.

Please join us for this very special night!

Social Justice Council meets April 12

The Social Justice Council will meet on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:15 p.m. This bi-monthly meeting will focus on policy development and monitoring programs, needs, and plans for the future. Members and interested friends are invited to help shape our direction.

We will review Social Justice Finances for the current fiscal year and develop a request to the Finance Committee for 2011-2012. As a part of that discussion, we will review a draft Share- The-Plate policy to forward to the Board for its action later in the month. Having initiated that program in January, we have contributed \$399 to Welcome House, \$400 to Jonnycake Center, and \$600 to the Storehouse. Those who attend the meeting will receive draft materials on a new policy and define what the policy should be. In addition, we need to review actions and needs with Standing on the Side of Love and what is happening in the legislature on marriage equality and immigration. – John Glasheen

UU World Discussion

The third session of this meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 28. All members receive a quarterly copy of *UU World*; we will review the articles that most interest the participants and discuss how we might apply the concepts presented to our own lives or the development of the congregation.

– John Glasheen

Our favorite reads in 2010

On a sunny winter morning, seventeen of us gathered for the second annual "Books and Bagels." We enjoyed bagels and cream cheese, muffins, fruit, coffee and tea while sharing up to three of our favorite books read in 2010. Kathy Swink was our facilitator and did a great job of keeping things moving. Following is a brief description of the books we shared. The letter next to the book stands for Fiction (F), Non-Fiction (N), or Historical Fiction (HF). This event was sponsored by the Adult Religious Education Committee. – Iris Donnelly



Joan Youngken

Rhett Butler's People (F) by Donald McCaig. Gone with the Wind from Rhett Butler's perspective. Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind Little Women (NF) by Harriet Reisen. "A fascinating biography." Joy at Work: A Revolutionary Approach to Fun on the Job (NF) by Dennis Bakke. How to have a successful company while treating everyone with respect and encouraging fun.

Alea Stokes

The Patron Saint of Butterflies (F) by Cecila Galante. Two girls escape from a cult and try to deal with newfound freedom.

Russell Stokes

The Sword in the Stone (F) by T.H. White. King's Arthur's Round Table changes "might is right" to a "sharing of power." Say You're One of Them (HF) by Uwem Akpan. A Nigerian Jesuit priest writes through the voice of children; describes horrific tragedies in Africa.

Mary Finnegan

A Duty to the Dead (F) by Charles Todd. An interesting historical mystery set during World War I. The Girl Who Fell from the Sky (F) by Heidi Durrow. The survival of a biracial child after a tragedy.

Ellie Fish

Aesop's Mirror: A Love Story (NF) by Maryalice Huggins. A restorer of gilded mirrors learns of a love story associated with the Rhode Island Brown family. The Great Divorce: A Nineteenth-Century Mother's Extraordinary Fight Against her Husband, the Shakers, and Her Times (NF) by Ilyon Woo. A woman tries to get her children back from a Maine Shaker village in the 1800s.

Charlotte MacLean

The Help (F) by Kathryn Stockett. How black maids were treated by families whose children they adored in the 1960s Mississippi. The Upstairs Room (NF) by Johanna Reiss. A Newberry Medal winner. A girl survives the Holocaust by being hidden.

Marie Younkin-Waldman

Savages: A Novel (F) by Don Winslow. A detective story about a Mexican drug cartel. The Corrections: A Novel (F) by Jonathan Franzen. The plight of a family dealing with Parkinson's disease, dysfunctional children, and loneliness.

Peter Himmel

The Hidden Staircase (Nancy Drew Series) (F) by Carolyn Keene. Peter enjoyed reading this story aloud with his granddaughter. The Anatomy of Hope: How People Prevail in the Face of Illness (NF) by Jerome Groopman, M.D. See hope as the heart of healing; how to instill it in patents.

Judi Marcy

Bones to Ashes: A Novel (F) by Kathy Reichs. A forensic anthropologist writes mysteries related to anthropology; tales told by bones. Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk: A Modern Bestiary (F) by David Sedaris. Darkly comic morality stories enacted by animals. The Surgeon: A Novel (F) by Tess Gerritsen. A physician's medically accurate thriller about a killer on the loose.

Val Follett

The Ice Queen: A Novel (F) by Alice Hoffman. A woman experiences guilt over the death of her mother.

Kathy Swink

Nineteen Minutes (F) by Jodi Picoult. Examines a school shooting from many different perspectives. To Kill a Mockingbird (F) by Harper Lee. The classic story about a girl's experience with racial prejudice in a small Southern town. Dombey and Son (F) by Charles Dickens. "Ah, Miss Harriet, it would do us no harm to remember oftener than we do, that vices are sometimes only virtues carried to excess!"

Joan Patterson

The Book Thief (HF) by Markus Zusak. A young girl learns to read with stolen books in World War II-era Germany. What is the What (F) by Dave Eggers. An epic novel about a young Sudanese who becomes a Lost Boy and eventually settles in the United States.

Charlie Donnelly

Rising from the Rails: Pullman Porters and the Making of the Black Middle Class (NF) by Larry Tye. A compelling social history of Pullman porters and dining car attendants and of the Pullman Company.

Iris Donnelly

Sarah's Key (HF) by Tatiana de Rosnay. A contemporary American journalist investigates what happened to a little girl and her family during the roundup of Jews in Paris in 1942. Picking Cotton: Our Memoir of Injustice and Redemption (NF) by Jennifer Thompson-Cannino, Ronald Cotton and Erin Torneo.

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What's in a name?

A few years ago, when we first bought a building at 27 North Road in Peace Dale, we all said our new home was going to be at the Lily Pads. Frogs appeared. Lily Pad banners were created. Lovely mental images related to lily pads danced in our heads.

Now that the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County is a significant presence in Peace Dale, it is time for all of us to affirm and promote the language of OUR name. UUCSC is between the Lily Pads office buildings. Yes, we are located in the Professional Complex. And we can use OUR NAME in all of our dealings—spoken and printed. Think of it as advertising.

Every time we communicate OUR NAME, UUCSC, the Unitarian church, we advertise our presence to those who may be looking for a spiritual home. Let us adopt the language of using OUR NAME whenever we identify our location in our church community.

— Linda Whyte Burrell

We *should* use our name. It *would* make us better known. We *do* want people to know who we are.

But aren't you sick of all the alphabet soup we're already being served? The post office is the USPS. The registry is the DMV. The high school is SKHS and the junior high is CCMS. We need to open an IRA unless we're already in AARP.

If you ask others what church they go to, they might say "Peace Dale Congregational" or "Christ the King," or even "King Cong." They don't say "PDCC" or "CTK" or "KCC." When people ask what church you go to, do you say, "UUCSC"? If you say, "The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County," they might get bored before the end of the sentence.

We *should* use our name. But unfortunately it doesn't sound as lovely or horticultural as "Lily Pads."

I'm not sure what the solution should be. What do you think?

— The Editor



Walk for Shelter

This year's Walk for Shelter will be on the morning of Good Friday, April 22nd. We will join our friends and neighboring churches for what is the primary fundraiser for Welcome House, the homeless shelter in Peace Dale. The walk departs from Peace Dale Congregational Church on Columbia Street at 9 a.m. After some pre-walk stretches and encouragement, we are off. Can you help raise money for Welcome House? Please see Gerre Alderwick and she will have the latest information as well as pledge sheets. — Gerre Alderwick

The Agape Fund

The UUCSC's Agape Fund was created to provide confidential help to members and friends of the congregation who are having difficulty meeting the cost of basic needs such as food, shelter, and heat. The basis of the fund is the collection taken at the annual Christmas Eve service. Rev. Betty Kornitzer administers this fund. If you need a little help, please call Betty at her study (284-3321).

Our favorite reads from 2010

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Because of a victim's memory lapses during a violent rape, and a faulty justice system in North Carolina, a man spends eleven years in prison for a crime he did not commit.

Tina Letcher

Red Sorghum (HF) by Mo Yan. Chinese peasant life in 1939.

Nancy Rose

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet (F) by Jaime Ford. A friendship between a Chinese-American boy and

a Japanese-American girl in Seattle during World War II; conflicts and choices that people make or don't make. Those Who Saved Us (HF) by Jenna Blum. A daughter discovers a photo of her mother with a Nazi officer. Breakfast with Buddha (F) by Roland Merullo. Encounters with the Western World in diners, bowling alleys, etc. Humorous in parts.

Nina Collier

The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family (NF) by Annette Gordon-Reed. A saga about the relationship between Thomas Jefferson and the Hemings slave family. On Chesil Beach (F) by Ian McEwan. Disastrous beginning of the marriage of a couple in the 1960s.

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY
27 NORTH ROAD
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“I haven't the slightest idea how to
change people, but I still keep a long list
of prospective candidates just in case I
should ever figure it out.”

– David Sedaris