

# THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2012



## March Services



### March 4

#### **Accepting the End: Death as Part of Life – Rev. Betty Kornitzer**

This service is the second in a three-week series on death and dying. We'll focus on Mitch Albom's inspirational book, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, a story of living into dying.

### March 11

#### **Final Gift: Conversations at the End of Life – Dr. Jean Miller**

Being present to someone at the end of life is a gift. When we risk loving until the last moment, what otherwise might be frightening becomes holy.  
*Professor Miller is a retired Dean of Nursing at URI.*

### March 18

#### **Breaching the Wall – Rev. Jan Knost**

Recent events here in Rhode Island brought the First Amendment of the Constitution under fire again. Nothing would please the radical right more than to see a Supreme Court ruling to overturn it. What to do?  
*Rev. Knost, a retired Universalist minister, lives in Charlestown.*

### March 25

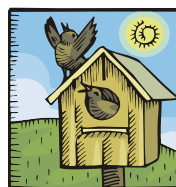
#### **Immigration and Social Justice in America – Rev. Betty Kornitzer**

Delegates at the 2010 UUA General Assembly selected "Immigration as a Moral Issue" as the Congregational Study/Action Issue for 2010-2014. The 2012 General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona will be a special "Justice GA." We'll explore the immigration issue and our UU response.  
*All are invited to Coffee and Conversation with Rev. Betty in the Sanctuary after the service.*

### April 1

#### **Courage – Rev. Betty Kornitzer**

The Rev. Dr. Galen Guengerich writes, "The inner experience of courage, the courage to be, leads to an outward expression of courage, the courage to do." This sermon, inspired by a General Assembly workshop led by Rev. Guengerich, will explore how courage relates to our Unitarian Universalist faith.



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



# THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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

DEADLINE: THE 20TH DAY OF EACH MONTH

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## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

[www.uusouthcountyri.org](http://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](mailto: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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**Debby Hedison**, Religious Education Director

**Michael Galib**, Music Director

**Kathleen Carland**, Administrator

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### **Contact Information for Rev. Betty Kornitzer**

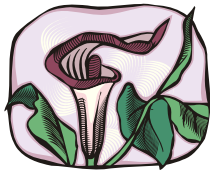
Regular Office Hours – Wednesdays 3 to 6 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays: 9 a.m. to Noon,  
and other times, *all by appointment*. Days off are Monday, Tuesday & Friday afternoon.

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

E-mail (very effective) – [bkornitzer@aol.com](mailto:bkornitzer@aol.com)

Please be sure to call before dropping by the church during office hours. Sometimes Betty is  
called away on business away from her office, even during “office hours.”

*Betty will be in Florida with family from Friday March 9 through Tuesday, March 13. During this  
time she can be reached on her cell phone in case of emergencies. Pastoral concerns  
may be sent to Judi Marcy, chair of the Caring Connection.*



# *The Minister's Message*

By Rev. Betty Kornitzer

## Immigration as a Moral Issue

“Immigration as a Moral Issue” is the Unitarian Universalist Association’s Congregational Study/Action Issue for 2010-2014. Why is immigration a moral issue about which we should be concerned as a people of faith? These words from the UUA website form the basis of a response:

Migration of people— driven by economic, social, political and environmental factors— is taking place around the world. Millions are currently in transit, in refugee camps, in detention centers, or living and working in places without full legal status and without access to social services or protection of civil rights . . . The dignity of all the world’s peoples is core to Unitarian Universalist principles and values. Given the justice-oriented nature of UU faith, UUs are called to be leaders in the struggle for immigrant and refugee rights, and to view immigration not only as a legal issue but also moral issue.

In a statement to our Board in the fall, John Glasheen posed these questions:

- What is a “General Assembly” of the Unitarian Universalist Association?
- What is a “Justice General Assembly”?
- How do we experience “Todas somos Arizona – We are all Arizona”?

He made the following points:

The 2010 GA overwhelmingly endorsed a resolution committing the UUA to holding a special “Justice” General Assembly in Phoenix in 2012 for the purpose of witnessing on immigration, racial and economic justice.

In Phoenix, there will be a strong focus on immigration in keeping with our commitment to the immigration and civil rights organizations that have invited us to collaborate with them. But General Assembly 2012 is first and foremost a religious gathering. Our passion for justice is founded on spiritual and religious principles that call us to gather in nonviolent protest for public issues and social action. We will gather to broaden and deepen our understanding of justice and to bring that understanding home to our congregations, that we may grow in spirit as well as serve.

It is my sincere hope that UUCSC will send a strong and committed delegation to GA in June. This GA will be less business and more worship, more public witness and collaboration with local civil rights activists. Join me, come and be moved in the spirit, come and make a difference. Why? Because immigration is a moral issue to which we are called to respond as a people of faith.

Blessings, Peace & Love

*Betty*

# The President's Message

We would like to welcome to the Board Tracy Hart as our past president. She replaces our beloved Joan Patterson, who passed away. Also, Marie Youngkin has replaced Rich Evans as a trustee. Both Joan and Rich are missed and we are fortunate to have both Tracy and Marie, who have graciously agreed to be part of the Board.

The board approved an alcohol policy at its last meeting. Last year, congregational meetings were held to get input on a policy. A survey was developed from comments made at those meetings and was distributed at our annual meeting in

June. Those surveys were compiled by a group of members of the board. A copy of the alcohol policy will appear in next month's *South County Unitarian Universalist* and will appear on our website.

On Sunday mornings, the Board is

asking anyone who is willing and able to please leave parking spots near the door for those who do not have a handicap parking permit but need the convenience of being near the front door. Thank you.

Debby Hedison, our Religious Education Director, is heading up a new Safety and Security Committee. Committee members will be working on safety issues, which included the safety of our children and adults, as well as physical security issues related to our facility. Anyone who is interested should contact Debby.

— Charlie Donnelly



## It's almost D4\$ time!

Dining for Dollars (D4\$) is a silent auction that raises much-needed funds for our congregation, and at the same time provides participants with a fantastic dining experience with some terrific members and friends of our UUCSC community.

The way this auction works is that folks volunteer to host a dining event of whatever fashion their creativity dictates. Places at their "tables" are auctioned off and the highest bidders are treated to some gastronomic masterpieces. We have had some very spectacular events offered at previous auctions. Now is the time to consider how you can participate. If you'd like to host an event but aren't sure how to go about it and would like some help coming up with some ideas, please contact me.

Our auctions have been big successes. We have raised a total of more than \$20,000 so far, and this will be our fifth go 'round.

This Spring, our auction will take place in April, so please contact me if you'd like to participate by offering to host an event. And if I don't hear from you, you'll hear from me!

— Nancy Rose, chairperson of D4\$



## When the weather is frightful . . .

The safety of our congregants is our first priority. Please stay at home on Sunday mornings if travel is unsafe for you. UUCSC President Charlie Donnelly and Rev. Betty will determine if Sunday services should be cancelled due to bad weather. The decision will be made by early Sunday morning. Cancellation will be publicized in three ways: a message on the church e-mail list, a notice on the UUCSC website, and messages on TV channels 12 and 64 and on radio stations WHJJ (920 AM), WWBB (101FM), WHJY (94.1 FM) and WSNE (93.3FM).



**If the service is cancelled, enjoy a "virtual worship service."** Sunday morning worship is an important part of our experience of Beloved Community, even in the midst of storms. If Sunday morning worship is cancelled due to bad weather, Betty will send out a "virtual worship service" to those on the UUCSC e-mail list. At 10 a.m. on Sunday morning, all who wish may read the service and participate, knowing we all together in spirit. If you have Joys and Concerns to share, send them to Betty at [bkornitzer@aol.com](mailto:bkornitzer@aol.com) by 9 a.m. Sunday morning, and they will be included in the "virtual worship service."

# Help the UU Legislative Ministry set this year's action priorities

Since 2001, the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Rhode Island (UULMRI) has developed issues, recruited coalition partners, and worked with progressive legislators to take action on our values. The 2012 annual meeting will be on Sunday, March 18 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Westminster Unitarian Church in East Greenwich. UUs from all congregations in the state will gather to share insights on legislative issues of interest and set priorities for action during the 2012 legislative session.

Some of the issues and coalition partners under consideration will be:

Income distribution and tax policy – Ocean State Action, Carolyn Mark, John Glasheen • Same-sex marriage – Marriage Equality R.I., Channing Interweave, Beth Milham • Housing – Coalition for the Homeless, Neighborhood Opportunities Program, Betsy Dees, John Glasheen • Immigration – Bob Cox, John Glasheen • Climate change – /Interfaith Power/Light: Beth Milham • Women's issues – NOW, Carolyn Mark • Voter ID repeal • Clean government – Al Benson

Members of Occupy Providence and Ocean State Action will speak. Rev. Betty Kornitzer will give the invocation. You should attend to help set our priorities for this year, and to meet UUs from other congregations who are working on issues of deep interest to you. Attend in carpools to minimize car use and enhance collaboration.

– John Glasheen



## Newcomers' Potluck March 23

Another fun time is planned for 6 p.m. on Friday, March 23 at the lovely home of Rev. Betty in Narragansett. Sponsored by the Membership Committee, this event is for all those who consider themselves newcomers, or those who just want an opportunity to meet others in our congregation in a



smaller setting to share good food and good company. Please bring a dish you like to make and join

the fun. Printed invitations and directions to Betty's home are available from the Membership Committee on Sunday mornings. We are the ones with purple nametags greeting you as you enter. Hope to see you on March 23 for a joyful evening. – Val Follett

## Coffee with Rev. Betty

*All are invited to join Rev. Betty for coffee and conversation after the worship service on Sunday, March 25. We'll gather in a circle in the sanctuary. This is a good opportunity for newcomers to UUCSC to ask questions and get to know some of our members.*

## Welcome House

On the second Wednesday of each month, UUCSC is responsible for the evening meal at Welcome House, the homeless shelter in Peace Dale. This month, the date is March 14. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up on the sheet in the Community Room. Should you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact Gerre Alderwick.

– Gerre Alderwick

## Our religious heritage

The U.U. Historical Society and the U.U. Women's Heritage Society combined last June to create the new U.U. History and Heritage Society. Our website address is now UUHHS.org.

Membership dues are our primary support. We invite you to join the Society and help us sustain and expand our support for the history of our movement in its many dimensions. You can join us on line using PayPal from our web site at <http://www.uuhs.org/Join.htm>.

– Rev. Paul Sprecher, UU History and Heritage Society

## Walk for Shelter on Good Friday

On the morning of Good Friday, April 6, we will join our friends and neighbors on the annual "Walk for Shelter." The walk is a pledge walk that raises money for our friends at Welcome House. Registration starts at 8:15 a.m. and the walk is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m.



The course is a double loop around Wakefield that begins and ends at Peace Dale Congregational Church on Columbia Street. I hope be able to have pledge forms available soon.

– Gerre Alderwick

The Lunch Bunch reading group will meet at noon on Monday, March 19 to discuss *The Long Loneliness: The Autobiography of Dorothy Day*.

All are welcome. Questions? call Helene Gersuny.





## MONEY MATTERS

The monthly column from the Finance Committee

Last month I wrote about the Board/Finance Task Force meeting with Dan Hotchkiss, our consultant from the Alban Institute. As a result of those meetings, we are initiating a new and different (for us) pledge canvass this year. The phrase “Built to Last” gets to the heart of where we are going in our pledge season.

When we began our building campaign, a good friend of our UU congregation gave us \$75,000 to partially defray some of our operating expenses over the first five years of owning this new home. His gift was accompanied by a trust in all of us to make our home one that was built to last. Our efforts this year will be to raise our pledges up to a level where we need not look over our shoulders; where we feel comfortable about our stability; where we continue to look forward.

This year’s campaign will be in three phases. First, at the end of March, the people who are at the top 20% of our givers will be invited to come together for an event and will be invited to consider their level of giving for our next fiscal year. Second, during March and a part of April, a dozen or so volunteers will be meeting with another 60% of our members face to face, perhaps over tea or coffee, for a brief conversation. Third, toward the end of April, we will gather for a Sunday Celebration Service, at which time the final 20% of our members will have the opportunity to consider their pledge for the coming fiscal year.

This congregation pulses with the vibrancy of our commitment to one another, to our community and to the world in which we are all a part. With these values, we are definitely “built to last!”

Respectfully submitted,  
*Aline Couture, Finance Chair*

### **"What Moves Us?" on Saturday, March 3rd**

Rev. Betty will offer an additional segment of the UUA's "What Moves Us" class, created by UU theologian Thandeka, on Saturday, March 3 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The class explores the more spiritual aspects of our faith, offering us readings and exercises to help us experience similar moments of wonder and transcendence.

The topic on March 3rd will be "William Schulz, Modern Unitarian Universalism in a New Key."

**Guest at Your Table . . .** Thanks to friends and members of our congregation for their generosity. We raised \$1,648.11 for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. — *Gerre Alderwick*

## Help Us Walk the Walk

Common Ground is collecting household items for the more than 90 refugee families who will be resettled in Providence this year.

The International Institute of Rhode Island, located in Providence, is a non-profit agency serving refugees from around the world. The Institute offers “a strong helping hand” to families by finding them housing and employment. Most refugee families come with only the clothes on their backs, so all kinds of household items and furnishings — in good condition — are needed.

Some of the items we hope to collect



include, for the kitchen, utensils, silverware, pots and pans, dishes, and toasters; for the bedroom and bath, linens and towels, soap, tooth-

brushes and toothpaste, hand lotions, shampoo, first aid kits, shaving supplies, and toilet paper; and for general family use, alarm clocks, radios, small tool kits, flashlights, and umbrellas.

A box will be in the community room for your donations. If you have furniture to donate, call Mary Ellen Lynch, Donation Coordinator at the Insti-



tute, and she will arrange a pick-up from your home. Her number is 784-8649. You also may donate new items from the Target.com registry. — *Carolyn Hurdis, for Common Ground*

### **An announcement about announcements**

In order to limit the time required for announcements during Sunday services, only announcements that concern church business, and are not printed in the insert to the Order of Worship, will be read at the beginning of the service. We encourage everyone to send in their announcements in advance for inclusion in the Order of Worship insert. Thanks from the Worship Committee. — *Sue Strakosch*



## Religious Education News and Events

By Debby Hedison, Director of Religious Education

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

*"Life becomes religious whenever we make it so: when some new light is seen, when some deeper appreciation is felt, when some larger outlook is gained, when some nobler purpose is formed, when some task is well done."*

*— Sophia Lyon Fahs, liberal religious educator*

*"Make it so"*

*— Captain Picard, Star Trek*

There is so much going on in the spiritual and religious program. Thanks to all who help "make it so!"

### Session 4 Sunday School

March 4 – Start downstairs for Children's Chapel (Debby leads for K-5th grade) and then to regular classes

March 11 – Start upstairs, then down to Classes.

March 18 – Start upstairs, then down to Classes.

March 25 – Start upstairs, then down to Classes.

April 1 – Start upstairs, then down to Classes.

April 8 – Easter Intergenerational Service - No Classes.

April 15 – Start upstairs, then down to Classes.

April 22 – Start upstairs, then down to Classes.

April 29 – Start upstairs, then down to Classes.

Junior Youth Group – Social activities in addition to the Sunday school schedule

March 24

April 27

May 12 – Duxbury CON

### Senior Youth Group

Special Parent, Youth and Advisor meeting March 25 from 11:30 to 1. Please join us for this special planning and informational meeting pertaining to our group hosting its first Conference!

Sunday, April 29 – The Youth Service

May 11 through 13 – We will host our first CON!

Every Sunday we meet in the youth room at 11:30 a.m.

District CONS:

March 2-4 – Brewster

March 23-25 – Westminster

April 14-15 - Duxbury

### Religious Education Library Party!

On Saturday, March 10th we will have a pizza party and RE Library book organizing gathering. We will sort and organize many of our religious education books on the shelves in the nursery. We will gather at 9 a.m. to start the fun task of placing our wonderful books where they belong . . . within reach of our children, youth and families. Debby will treat you to pizza at noon!

### Path to Membership Classes this spring

As we do twice a year, Rev. Betty and the Membership Committee will offer classes for those who would like to learn more about our faith, especially those who are considering joining the congregation. The classes will be held after Sunday service, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., on three Sunday mornings. Please let us know if you will need child care.

April 1 – The History of Unitarian Universalism – Rev. Betty Kornitzer

April 22 – The Theology of Unitarian Universalism – Rev. Betty Kornitzer

April 29 – The Workings of Our Congregation – the Membership Committee

If you are already a Unitarian Universalist and planning to join the congregation, you don't need to attend the first two classes unless you want to, but the third class is very important to attend. A New Member ceremony for those who decide to join will be part of the service on Sunday, May 6th. – Val Follett and Barbara Pagh

## Good reads from “Books & Bagels”

On a sunny January morning, ten of us gathered to share our favorite books read in 2011 while enjoying bagels and cream cheese, muffins, fruit, coffee and tea. This was our third annual event. Nancy Rose was a wonderful facilitator. Here’s a brief description of the books we talked about. — Iris Donnelly

(F- fiction; NF- non fiction; HF- historical fiction)

**Nina Collier:** *Caleb’s Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks (HF). A Native American from Martha’s Vineyard graduates from Harvard and dies young. The author weaves a story about what might have happened. Chosen as the “Read Across Rhode Island” book for 2012.

**Virginia Carter:** *The Brother Gardeners: A Generation of Gentlemen Naturalists and the Birth of an Obsession* by Andrea Wulf (NF). The 18th century botany movement that changed the horticultural world.

**Melissa Hughes:** *Munich, 1938: Appeasement and World War II* by David Faber (NF). Britain’s attempts to appease Hitler before the war. *The Last Lion: Winston Spencer Churchill, Alone 1932-1940* by William Manchester (NF). The second volume of Manchester’s projected 3-volume biography of Churchill, the anti-appeaser. *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration* by Isabel Wilkerson (NF). The migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities from 1915 to 1970 in search of a better life, told through the stories of three individuals.

**Barbara Pagh:** *Swamplandia!* by Karen Russell (F). An imaginative story of a family living on an island in the Everglades. *A Voyage Long and Strange: On the Trail of Vikings, Conquistadors, Lost Colonists, and Other Adventurers in Early America* by Tony Horwitz (NF). The author unearths chapters in American history that have been ignored. *My Own Country: A Doctor’s Story* by Abraham Verghese (NF). A young doctor from India working in a rural Tennessee community became by necessity the local AIDS expert.

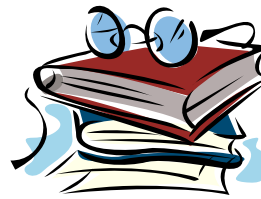
**Charlotte MacLean:** *Rin Tin Tin: The Life and the Legend* by Susan Orlean (NF). Discovered as a puppy on a battlefield in France during World War I, Rin Tin Tin becomes the first canine movie star.

**Liz Nelson:** *Learning to Breathe: One Woman’s Journey of Spirit and Survival* by Alison Wright (NF). A photojournalist and world traveler’s serious injury and path to recovery. *The Ledge: An Adventure Story of Friendship and Survival on Mount Rainier* by Jim

Davidson and Kevin Vaughan (NF). When a snowbridge breaks, two rock climbers on Mt. Rainier are trapped on a ledge. *The Secret: The Power* by Rhoda Byrne (NF). The author reveals the greatest power in the universe—the power to have anything you want.

**Larry Kellan:** *Absolute Monarchs: A History of the Papacy* by John Julius Norwich (NF). From St. Peter to Benedict XIV, scandals among popes.

**Marcia Boyd:** *1421: The Year China Discovered America* by Gavin Menzies (HF). Imagine that Magellan, Dias, da Gama, Cabral and Cook only “discovered” lands the Chinese had already visited, and they sailed with maps drawn from Chinese charts. *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War* by Nathaniel Philbrick (NF). The voyage of the Mayflower and the settlement of Plymouth Colony. *Consuelo and Alva Vanderbilt: The Story of a Daughter and a Mother in the Gilded Age* by Amanda MacKenzie Stuart (NF). Two women who struggled to break free from a world of materialism, and their dedication to noble



and dangerous causes and the battle for women’s rights.

**Nancy Rose:** *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot (NF). Her cells, taken without her knowledge, became the first immortal human cells grown in culture.

**Iris Donnelly:** *Keeper Of Lime Rock* by Lenore Skomal (NF). The life of Ida Lewis of Newport, our country’s most famous lighthouse keeper. Includes archival photos. *Native American Doctor: The Story of Susan Laflesche Picotte* by Jeri Ferris (NF). The daughter of an Omaha chief, she was the first Native American woman to graduate from medical school. *Just Kids* by Patti Smith (NF). An ode to her friendship with the photographer Robert Mapplethorpe; the art and music scenes of New York City in the 60s and 70s. Personal photos. National Book Award.

### The Ballou Channing District Spring Conference will look at the mission-focused church

Please join Rev. Betty at the BC District Spring Conference and annual meeting on Saturday, May 5 at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven, Mass. The Rev. Ron Robinson, minister of A Third Place in Turley, Oklahoma, is the keynote speaker. Conference details will be available later this month.



# End-of-life planning workshop for all ages

Sunday, March 25 and Sunday, April 1

This two-part workshop provides follow-up to the three sermons in March that explored the more spiritual aspects of our mortality. Attending both sessions is recommended to fully inform all of us about end-of-life planning for ourselves and our loved ones.

The two workshop sessions will take place on two consecutive Sundays— March 25 and April 1— after the service. A potluck lunch will be offered at 11:30, and the program will be from 12:15 p.m. to 2 p.m., either in the community room or the lower level classroom.

A potluck lunch will be served  
before each session at 11:30 a.m.  
Please join us!

The panel of presenters on March 25 will include Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Dr. Louis Rubenstein, M.D., F.A.C.P., and attorney Marcia J. Boyd. Dr. Rubenstein is medical director of the Hospitalist program at South County Hospital, where his responsibilities include counseling and medical advice on the issues of death and dying in the hospital setting. Marcia Boyd is an attorney with a private practice in Wakefield who concentrates in the areas of elder law, probate and trusts, special needs trusts and related areas. Rev. Betty and Marcia Boyd will present the April 1 session. A hos-

pice representative may also join the panel for one or both programs.

The March 25th program will include an overview of end-of-life planning with an emphasis on why individuals of all ages, especially young adults, benefits from advanced planning. We will discuss the medical, pastoral and legal elements in the planning process and include ample time for discussion and questions. Information from the “five wishes” materials produced by Aging with Dignity and recommended by the American Bar Association will be included in the program. A new UUCSC end-of-life planning booklet recommended by Rev. Betty also will be introduced.

We will review the Rhode Island Durable Health Care Power of Attorney and Living Will and provisions for advanced funeral planning. You will have an opportunity to ask questions about end-of-life planning and medical decisions with Dr. Rubenstein and other panel members.

During the April 1 program, you will have an opportunity to review and sign the documents needed to confirm your end-of-life decisions. Forms will be provided. The UUCSC end-of-life planning booklet will be available for completion. If you have already completed these forms, you may still find the discussion of interest and may use this as an opportunity to review your forms and be sure your plans are in order.

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## Your Committee on Ministry

The Committee on Ministry meets with Rev. Betty monthly to discuss what we are hearing from the congregation, to support Betty and her ministry, and to discuss ways each of us can minister to each other. We are dedicated to the health and well being of our whole congregation. The members of the committee, Jean Burke, Linda Whyte Burrell and Lindsey Crowninshield, care deeply about your thoughts and ideas regarding our shared ministry. We invite you to share with us any concerns you may have as well as any joys you are feeling. Feel free to contact us in person, over the phone or by e-mail. We can be of the highest service when we work together to co-create our experience: Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Linda Whyte Burrell, Jean Burke, and Lindsey Crowninshield.

Also, you can drop any comments, questions or concerns in the CoM box in the Community Room. We ask that you sign your name to anything you contribute to the box. These communications will be kept confidential, just as all others we receive.

– Warmly, Your Committee on Ministry

## Need help with your heating oil bills?

The Agape Fund allows the minister to confidentially assist members and friends of UUCSC with basic sustenance needs. The fund is collected from the generous contributions at the Christmas Eve service. It is available to those who could use a little help to meet their basic needs. Please call Betty at her study (284-3321), if you'd like to talk about receiving confidential assistance from the Agape Fund. It is here to serve you.

# Justice General Assembly 2012 – June 20 through 24 in Phoenix

Many UUCSC members attended the February 26 Justice General Assembly workshop led by Rev. Betty. We discussed the background behind the Justice General Assembly and the four elements of the General Assembly experience:

① Participation is fun, exciting, emotionally satisfying, and even transformational.

② This Justice General Assembly will be different from other GAs. We will join other state and national groups to witness on behalf of immigrants who suffer the consequences of Arizona's oppressive anti-immigration statute, and we will be able to bring our experiences back to Rhode Island to address immigration issues here. *Todos somos Arizona: We are all Arizona!*

③ General Assembly features more than a hundred different workshops, presentations, and meetings, and at least one hour a day is for youth caucuses and young adult caucuses.

④ General Assembly is the grand site (and sight) for our Fifth Principle (the use of the democratic process) in action. Daily plenary sessions engage the business of the General Assembly. This may sound like somber, stiff stuff but it is far more—it is stimulating, provocative, and insightful; it can approximate worship. It was in plenary sessions in 2010 that the newly-elected UUA President Peter Morales persuaded the Assembly to override a Board of Directors decision, enabling GA 2012 to take place in Phoenix to directly engage the immigration issue. It was in plenary sessions in 2011 that our Actions of Immediate Witness opposed the *Citizens United* Supreme Court decision. It was in plenary sessions that the UUA developed our policy on Ethical Eating and changed our governing structure for more effectiveness. Plenary sessions are fully engaging. Only by going to GA can you fully experience its potency.

— John Glasheen

## Immigration justice workshops in March

Two workshops in March provide background for the Justice GA as well as for local action on immigration issues. UUCSC members will attend both workshops. For questions or to carpool, please contact John Glasheen.

### **Immigration is a New England issue, too**

Saturday, March 10 from 9 a.m. to noon at First Parish Church in Duxbury, 842 Tremont St., Duxbury, Mass. Register on line at [www.cbd-mbd-uua.org/-immigrantrights](http://www.cbd-mbd-uua.org/-immigrantrights) or call 617-393-4216. There is no registration fee but a freewill offering will be taken.

UU Mass Action Network offers this seminar to provide an overview of immigration in this region. The program will feature a screening of the documentary "Lost in Detention," about the Obama Administration's detention policy and a Justice General Assembly preview.

### **New neighbors next door**

Saturday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Brockton, 325 West Elm St., Brockton, Mass. Registration fee is \$10 payable at the door. Haitians and East Africans immigrants, brought together by the Rev. Robert Thayer, minister of the UU Church of Brockton, will to share their stories about how they are affected by U.S. immigration policy. A light lunch will be served.

## From the Administrator

Spring is officially on the horizon, even though we have seen many glimpses throughout this winter. Some of the new developments in the office are the addition of a new safe to maintain security, and a new ISP-Verizon, which will reduce costs and extend wireless internet access further into the building.



We are still experimenting with the most efficient ways to keep everyone connected in the congregation. New friends and visitors are encouraged to complete the yellow Welcome Cards so you can receive our congregational e-mails, including Religious Education e-mails and E-Weekly Highlights.

In particular, we hope everyone checks off the Directory line on the Welcome Card so I can send you the most recent congregational directory and any addenda. It is a great way to keep in touch. If you do not have a copy, please e-mail me at [uucscri@yahoo.com](mailto:uucscri@yahoo.com) and I will happily provide one electronically. The Membership Committee always has printed copies available on Sundays and in the office.

Thank you for sending me community events to post on our Constant Contact E-Weekly Highlights. Keep sending items of interest as well as your thoughts on how this communication tool can be improved. It has the capacity to attach documents and photos for both church-related activities and community events. If you wish to promote an activity, the deadline for inclusion is Thursday noon. It is sent out to everyone on our e-mail list on Friday by 1:00 p.m.

— Best, Kathy Carland

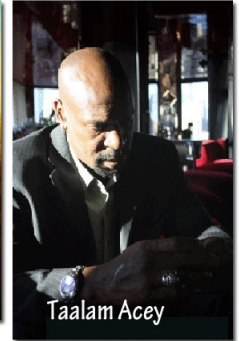
Friday, March 9, 7:30 p.m.

### Word (R)evolution with Taalam Acey & Jared Paul

Music at Lily Pads becomes Spoken Word at Lily Pads this night, with two nationally recognized word artist and poets, Taalam Acey from Baltimore, and Jared Paul from Providence. It will be an evening of illumination, clarity and verse as only performers of this caliber can deliver it. Do not miss this.

#### Jared Paul

Jared Paul is an organizer, independent journalist and social worker from Providence. Known for thoroughly researched work, poignant presentation and dedication to craft, Jared is also widely recognized as one of the premiere performance poets in the country. His accomplishments include nationwide tours with world-renowned poet and Epitaph Recording artist Sage Francis, an appearance at the 2007 Green-Build World Expo, and advancing to the Individual World Poetry Slam Finals in both 2006 and 2007.



#### Taalam Acey

"You have so, so much inspired me with your Spoken Word," said the legendary Stevie Wonder, while interviewing Taalam Acey during Wonder's own birthday celebration in May 2008. Taalam Acey has recorded more than a dozen CDs and written four books. Films that include his work have garnered an Audience Award (2002) and a Special Jury Prize (2006) at the Sundance Film Festival. He was featured in an acclaimed Radio-One London slam poetry documentary and Marc Smith, the founder of slam poetry, used Acey's work in his definitive book. Taalam currently lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

Tickets are \$10 at the door and online at [BrownPaperTickets.com](http://BrownPaperTickets.com)

Sunday, March 18, 4:30 p.m.

### Special Music at Lily Pads Fundraiser - The Bee Eaters, Jacob Moon & Jefferson Hamer

For our first annual Music at Lily Pads "Keep the music coming!" fundraiser, we are pulling out all the stops, offering brilliant music from the groundbreaking acoustic group The Bee Eaters, featuring six-time Grand National Champions Tashina and Tristan Clarridge on fiddle and cello, and hammer dulcimer virtuoso Simon Chrisman. Also featured are guitarist/mandolinist/songwriter and Bee Eaters collaborator Jefferson Hamer, and innovative guitarist/vocalist Jacob Moon.



This is a Sunday show. Doors open at 4 p.m., and music begins at 4:30 p.m. The program ends by 7:30 p.m. For an event designed as a fundraiser, ticket prices are modest at \$20 each. Come out and support our ongoing series, and treat yourself to exceptional live music from California, Brooklyn, and Toronto.

Because the program will run through the dinner hour, appetizers and our usual baked goods and beverages will be served at the break. Tickets are available online at [BrownPaperTickets.com](http://BrownPaperTickets.com) and at Sweet Cakes, the Alternative Food Co-op and Looney Tunes II.

visit [www.musicatlilypads.org](http://www.musicatlilypads.org) for more information on these and other upcoming events.

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“[John F. Kennedy] knew me to be one of a tiny religious group who were both Quakers and Unitarians. One day he asked quizzically if it was true that I did not believe in the Trinity. I replied that it was, since I had never known of a satisfactory description of the Holy Ghost as a separate being. There was a momentary silence, and a slight flicker in one eye, a distant cousin to a wink, before he asked urbanely, ‘Isn't that going pretty far, Paul?’”

– *Paul Douglas (1892-1976), in his autobiography*

*A professor of economics at the University of Chicago, Douglas represented Illinois in the U.S. Senate for eighteen years, fighting for civil rights, truth in lending, and conservation. He was a trustee of the Abraham Lincoln Center (Unitarian) in Chicago and attended All Souls Church (Unitarian) in Washington, D.C. and the Cedar Lane Unitarian Church in Bethesda, Maryland. Paul Douglas was born in Salem, Mass., 120 years ago this month.*