

# THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 5

MAY 2010

## May Services

SERVICES AND CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BEGIN AT 10 A.M.



### May 2

Understanding Addiction – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

Addiction affects nearly every family in some way. We will discuss the reality of addiction and how we might respond to the challenge with awareness, integrity and compassion.

*Special meeting of the congregation to discuss double services – 11:30 a.m.*

### May 9

“Re-Parenting” – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

Mother's Day is a mixed bag for many of us. Few grew up in a 'Leave it to Beaver' household. Happily, the human spirit is resilient and we find ways to be nurtured and to become whole.

We'll explore the process of “re-parenting.”

### May 16

The Annual Youth Service – *The Senior Youth Group*

Members of the Senior Youth Group create and lead this annual service. It's an opportunity for the rest of us to find out what's on their minds and what moves their spirits.

### May 23

“Be Different, BeLoved Community” – *Sean Delmore & Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

A focus on transgender lives and struggles expands into an exploration of how all are nourished when each of us is fully present, in mind, body, and soul, to one another.

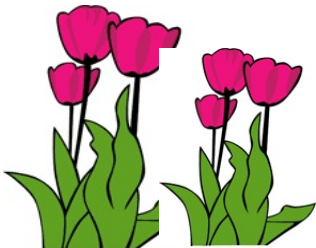
*Sean Delmore is a transgender man pursuing ordination in the United Methodist Church (UMC). He works for GLBT Services at MIT and is the Young Adult Minister at College Avenue UMC in Somerville, Mass.*

*A conversation with Sean & Rev. Betty will take place downstairs after the service*

### May 30

Keeping the Faith During the Inquisition – *Linda Davidson and David Gitlitz*

Spain's secret Jews struggled to pass their religion on to their children, hidden from the eyes of the Inquisition. David, URI Emeritus Professor of Spanish, and Linda will tell us how Beatriz Alvarez taught her daughter the rituals of Jewish burial.

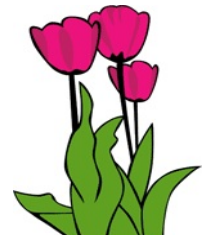


### June 6

The “Auction” Sermon – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

At our 2009 Auction, Virginia Carter won the right to choose the topic of this sermon. Stay tuned for her choice!

*The service will include a Bridging Ceremony*



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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)

### **Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Minister**

Bkornitzer@aol.com • Minister's Study 284-3321 • Urgent calls: 932-1515

Office hours Wednesdays 3 to 6 and Thursdays & Fridays 9 to noon, by appointment

### **Debby Hedison, Religious Education Director**

**Michael Galib, Music Director**

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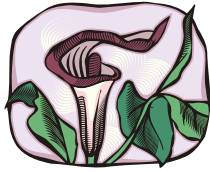
(401) 783-4170 • e-mail address: [uucscri@yahoo.com](mailto:uucscri@yahoo.com)

WEBSITE: <http://www.uusouthcountyri.org/> • Webmaster: David Crockett

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.***



# *The Minister's Message*

By Rev. Betty Kornitzer

## We've Got "It"

In the latest issue of *UU World* magazine, UUA president Peter Morales writes about the “it” church. His article begins:

*Some congregations have it. Others don't. And it doesn't take long to figure out if a congregation has “it” or not. We sense it right away. It is unmistakable. Some congregations are full of life. The energy fills the room. The warmth is palpable. We feel it in worship. We sense it in coffee hour. There is something about the “buzz.” We see people smile and embrace. They engage one another.*

Sound familiar? We all know he is talking about us. Recently I told a seasoned colleague that many people cry during our worship services. He shook his head a bit and asked, “Why?” I was surprised. I looked him in the eye and said, “I believe they feel safe and moved. They are relieved to feel at home at last, and so the tears flow.” This is the congregation that you have created by your welcoming spirits and warm reception. Right at the top of my list of priorities for a faith community is safety and inclusiveness. Human beings hunger for these basic needs. You've done it, and we've got “it.”

Morales continues:

*What makes the difference between being full of life and warmth versus being dead and cold? I think the difference is religion. Really. Religion . . . We tend to think of religion as a set of beliefs. That is a huge mistake. Religion is much more about what we love than about what we think.*

Sound familiar again? I thought so. At UUCSC we have found that it is insufficient to engage in purely intellectual deliberations. We do well to engage our hearts as well as our minds along the faith journey. Faith is a meaning-making experience, done best where it is safe to feel, to explore and yes, to cry. We've got “it.”

We are a community of human beings; difficulties will arise here. We've had our share. We can handle difficulties—we've proven that. Openness, transparency and good faith are part of the “it” we've got, and we'll need them. In the near future we will address several issues that can be controversial. I will mention three:

- The probability of having two worship services can raise strong differences of opinion.
- On May 2nd, worship concerns addiction. We'll begin to look at how that issue might impact our decision whether to serve alcohol in our building.
- The May 23 worship service explores the transgender life, a topic still challenging for many among us.

At UUCSC we do not avoid controversial and challenging issues. We shine the light on these questions, knowing we can communicate and work through our differences. We can do it. We've got good faith. After all, we've got “it!”

Blessings, Peace and Love,

*Betty*

# The President's Letter

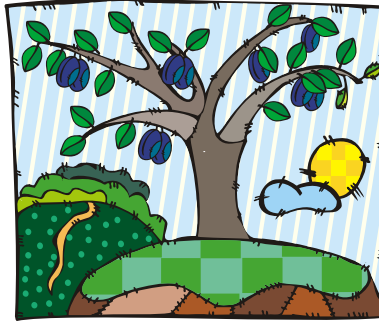
Beloved Congregation, with only one meeting left of this Board's tenure, I'd like to share what we are in the midst of stewarding.

Our paramount task, communicated throughout this past year: changing our culture from renter to owner of sacred space. We are still building infrastructure to support ease in utilizing our building, the coordination of events, sustaining UUCSC's financial health, and targeting areas needing completion.

Still in the works: compiling comprehensive safety policies; engaging volunteers in fun, fulfilling service necessary to UUCSC functioning; and finalizing the UUCSC Handbook. Also, the Committee on Ministry has been disseminating the Evaluation of our Ministry and that will provide a wealth of feedback to utilize. So exciting how we continue to transform positively!

And UUCSC's next challenge and opportunity? Thriving in our state of GROWTH!!! Thanks to Reverend Betty's grant, and budgeting of professional expenses, we will have the enthusiastic and experienced consultation from Peter

Bowden, UUA Growth Consultant.



Closer to home, we will be utilizing our Program Council (made up of all Committee Chairpersons) as change agents and as the hub of congregational input. In light of UUA guidelines (and seen in a brimming Sanctuary each Sunday), we will be moving to two services next year. How . . . who . . . when? Congregation-wide discussions will take place (the beautiful way we approach each new step in our evolution) and members' and friends' insight and feedback is enthusiastically welcome!

The first Sunday of June is when our Annual Meeting takes place, and all members have the right to vote. This is our opportunity to alter governance and there are several by-law changes on the agenda.

Details will be included in your Agenda packet, which members will receive in advance of the meeting. A sneak peek: reducing the Board by one member (the Finance Committee chair), since that person will play a greater role as a Program Council member and we have the Treasurer to represent that realm. To compensate for one less vote, we'll be proposing that the Past President become a voting Board member.

Increasing the visibility of your Board—who these folks are who give their time and wisdom and work with such loving intention—is another Board agenda item. We feel it is important, with the winds of change continuing to dance and howl, that you can identify UUCSC Board members and thereby bring concerns and ideas directly to us, if you wish.

Well, I have one more newsletter piece after the Annual Meeting, but I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to serve in so rich a time in our Congregation's history. It has been a deeply appreciated pleasure to be part of the 2009-2010 Board.

In peace and loving service,  
– Tracy

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## Four weeks seems like a long time . . .

But that's how far ahead you'll have to plan if you want to be sure the entire South County community knows about the church-related event you're arranging.

Myron Waldman, the Publicity Committee chair, needs you to help him publicize our Congregation's events by sending him all the information he will need to put together a press release for distribution to local newspapers and other media outlets.

If you go to this address on the internet – <http://tinyurl.com/UUpublicityform> – you will find a form to fill out. Type in the requested information, hit the "send" button, and your information will be delivered directly to Myron.





# The Music Corner

by Mike Galib, Music Director

What happens at a choir rehearsal? How does that music come together? Why are there so many notes?

You may think this was a listing of questions that members of the congregation ask themselves, and if your mind did wander in that direction, you would be mildly correct. It's also what goes through my head on a weekly basis.

There's already so much to consider when learning a piece of music by oneself. There are, of course, the notes, but then many variables come into play. There are dynamics (how loud or soft), articulations (how to attack the notes, i.e., short and light, strong and heavy, smoothly connected, etc.), questions of tempo (how fast is too fast /slow?), and the issue of rhythmic precision. It seems like enough to contend with by itself, but then we must add to the mix, in the case of an ensemble like the UUCSC Choir, that there are many people performing the same piece. How then do we reconcile many peoples' views of the same piece of music to create a coherent final

product?

Again, welcome to my head before Thursday rehearsals.

Luckily for me, the Choir here at UUCSC is indeed a hardworking one, and its members' receptiveness to a group learning process makes it possible to sing new pieces and anthems each week. We have decided to share a rehearsal of ours with the congregation at large, opening it up to anyone who would like to come sing with us for a rehearsal, to see what it is we do, and how the process of making music as one group manifests itself on a weekly basis.

Even if you consider yourself only a "shower singer" with no knowledge of reading music, know that you are not alone in your habits of crooning cleanliness, and you are most welcome to join us.

The special rehearsal will take place after the service on Sunday, May 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All are welcome, no need to respond in advance. Hope to see you May 16 after Coffee Hour!



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## PLANT SALE

**Sunday May 16th**

before and after service.  
Share your garden excess,  
nicely potted and labeled.  
House plants welcome, too.

Want to help out?  
Call Helene Gersuny.

*The Agape Fund...  
when you need a little help  
from your friends*

The Agape Fund allows the minister to confidentially assist members and friends of UUCSC with basic sustenance needs such as food and shelter. The fund has been collected from the congregation's generous contributions at the Christmas Eve service. It is available to those



who could use a little help from their friends to meet their basic needs. Please call Betty at the office (284-3321) if you'd like to talk about receiving assistance from the Agape Fund.

## **Spiritual Deepening: An Introductory Series for Unfolding a Soulful Life**

*Join us for the last in a series facilitated by Rev. Betty Kornitzer and Christine Phoenix-Green. We will meet on Wednesday, May 19 from 7 to 8:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary.*

*The topic will be Nature. We will create a Nature Altar, and you are invited to bring an object from nature to place upon our altar. Forget the object? No problem, "nature will provide."*

*All are welcome. Pre-registration is very helpful (though not required) for preparation. To pre-register please e-mail Christine Phoenix-Green at: [cphoenixrising@earthlink.net](mailto:cphoenixrising@earthlink.net).*



## MONEY MATTERS

The monthly column from the Finance Committee

*Q. So how are we doing on our Pledge returns for 2010-2011?*

A. We have been receiving the pledge cards at a slow rate but, so far, the results are very encouraging. Laying out our financial picture at our Sunday service in March has brought our pledged amounts up. We are cautiously optimistic that this trend upward will continue as we move into the final phase of returns.

*Q. So how are we keeping up with expenses in our new facility?*

A. Although we are working with a \$17,000 budget deficit, we have had enough money to keep up with expenses to date. One possible plan at fiscal year end is to “borrow” from our Land and Building fund to close what deficit remains at that time. That will lower our reserves, but we may be able to repay the “loan” early in our next fiscal year. We have a few new fundraisers in the works that we hope will generate fun, enthusiasm and additional income. As we had anticipated, we have been blessed with a number of new people joining us each Sunday. Their generous donations have noticeably increased our income.

*Q. How can I learn more about what is planned for next year?*

A. The Finance Committee will meet on May 12 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room to finalize the proposed budget for fiscal year 2010-2011. We would love to have anyone who wished to attend join us. When the proposed budget leaves our Committee, it is submitted to the Board for their review. The final version will be voted on at our Annual Meeting in June.

*– Aline Couture, Finance Committee Chair*

### **The UUCSC Habitat Bowl-a-thon team needs you!**

On Thursday, May 20th, at 5:30 p.m. at Old Mountain Lanes in Wakefield, we’re taking part in the annual Habitat for Humanity Bowl-a-thon. There will be free pizza and soft drinks for all bowlers. Prizes will be awarded to top fundraisers and top scorers! Our congregation usually sends two teams each year. You can bowl or sponsor a bowler. Each individual bowler needs to contribute a minimum of \$50 in pledges.

Team sign-up and individual pledge sheets are available at the Social Action table in the Community Room.

*– Gerre Alderwick*



## “Norma Rae”

Let us celebrate the heroic life of the real “Norma Rae,” Crystal Lee Sutton, who stood up to fight corporate greed and bring justice to textile workers, on Tuesday, May 25 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

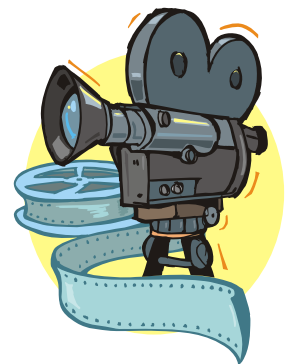
Scott Molloy, professor of labor and industrial relations at URI, will facilitate our discussion of the 1979 film starring Sally Field as Norma Rae, a minimum-wage worker in a cotton mill who decides to join the effort to unionize her shop.

The real Norma Rae gained fame during the early 1970s after she was fired from her job at the J.P. Stevens plant in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina for trying to unionize its employees.

She was earning \$2.65 an hour folding towels. The poor working conditions she and her fellow employees suffered compelled her to join forces with Eli Zivkovich, a union organizer, and attempt to unionize the J.P. Stevens employees.

She finally was fired. But before she left, she took one final stand, shown in the film as it actually happened in real life “I took a piece of cardboard and wrote the word UNION on it in big letters, got up on my work table, and slowly turned it around. The workers started cutting their machines off and giving me the victory sign. All of a sudden the plant was very quiet...”. Police physically removed her from the factory.

In a subsequent election, the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union won the right to represent the workers at the plant. The Adult Religious Education Committee invites you to join us for a great movie and a lively discussion on May 25th.





# Contra Dance on May 15th!

The Second Annual South County Open Band Contra Dance will happen on Saturday, May 15 from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Lucia Watson, an experienced dance caller, will teach and call the dances. A group of amateur and professional musicians from around the state will provide live music.



Contra dance is a highly social form of early American folk dance in which partners change frequently. It is said about a contra dance that by the end of the evening, you will have danced with everyone in the room! No special attire is required (although lightweight clothing is recommended since things will heat up). Please wear clean, non-marking shoes to protect our beautiful wood floor.

Almost all ages can learn to contra dance. No partner is required, and no special dance skill or background is needed. All dances will be taught.

Contra dance music comes from many traditions: Celtic, Quebecois, Appalachian old time, and these days, even jazz and klezmer. Almost all contra dances feature live music. Fiddle playing is usually prominent.

Music for this dance will be provided by the South County Old Time Music Jam Session. This group used to meet in the American Legion Hall on Monday nights, and has played at a couple of UUCSC auctions. We have received support for this dance from two wonderful organizations. The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts provides funds for a series of

music workshop/jam sessions that take place at the Kingston Free Library on second and fourth Monday evenings of each month. Musicians participating in these workshops will play the music for the dance. The Country Dance and Song Society ([www.cdss.org](http://www.cdss.org)) provided additional funds to insure that we will have seasoned professionals playing along with the volunteer musicians at this dance.

Our contra dance last year was a wonderful community event, with about 70 dancers in attendance. We hope to keep this tradition going.

A seven dollar donation is suggested. Volunteer helpers would be appreciated; talk to anyone on the Social Events Committee: Ali Buffum, Harry Buffum, Eileen DeMaio, Elise Bender, Mary Finnegan, or David Floyd.

– Harry Buffum

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## **Directory update coming soon— don't miss out!**

*If you would like to be in our UUCSC Directory so that others in our congregation can contact you, please fill out a directory registry form in the dark blue binder on the table in the Community Room, right next to the current directories. We'd like to do an update soon and want everybody in it. Please join us.*

## **Have You Been Looking for a Hymnal Lately?**

*If you would like to add to the number of hymnals we own, Charlotte MacLean will be happy to take your order. The hardcover hymnals are about \$30 and you can request an inscription to honor someone living or deceased. Some people buy one for themselves and bring it with them each Sunday. Whatever floats your boat is fine with us. Charlotte is the lovely blond lady who often hands you the Order of Worship on Sundays.*

– Val Follett, for the Membership Committee



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THE UUCSC MEDITATION GROUP meets in the Sanctuary every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. We practice sitting and walking meditation and share a reading and time of discussion. All are welcome. No meditation experience is necessary.



## Green Task Force "Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month"

The Green Task Force will make applications for NationalGrid's 'GreenUp' option available in the Community Room at Coffee Hour under a 'GreenUp' sign.

Signing up for GreenUp means choosing to have an additional surcharge added to your monthly electricity bill that will go toward the production of renewable energy sources through one of two suppliers. By paying the surcharge, we help renewable energy become more available to everyone. The application completely outlines the procedure and signing up can be done through the mail or by e-mail. To learn about the two local suppliers, visit Community Energy at: [www.NewWindEnergy.com](http://www.NewWindEnergy.com) or People's Power and Light at [www.ripower.org](http://www.ripower.org). To learn more about the GreenUp program, go to [http://www.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/home/energychoice/3\\_renewable.asp](http://www.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/home/energychoice/3_renewable.asp).



– Melissa Hughes

## Our Walk for Shelter

After what seemed like endless rain, April 2nd was a perfect Spring morning. Blue skies, sunshine— a great morning for a community walk, and walk we did.

Together, the U.U. walkers raised \$540 in pledges to benefit our neighbors at Welcome House. We



gathered at the Peace Dale Congregational Church, donned our "Standing on the Side of Love" tee shirts, and walked the sidewalks of Wakefield. Our Junior High

Youth Group carried the official "WALK FOR SHELTER" banner and set a brisk pace for the rest of us to follow.

Big thanks go to Rev. Betty, John Glasheen, Lisa McHenry, Val Follett, Barbara Pagh, Mary Finnegan, Pam and Hannah Santos, Lisa Petrie, Mike Getachew, Charlie Donnelly, Vikki LePree, Erica Steele, Teal and Allegra Migliaccio, Sally Barney, Ann Marie and Eva Dennelle, Lynn, Devin and Jordan Collette, and Joan Youngken.

– Gerre Alderwick

### Attention Playground Gnomes:

Thanks from all of us in Religious Education to the "Playground Gnomes" who devoted their talented hands, strong backs and great teamwork to the building of our playset on the RE Playground.

Just watching the kids (young and old) enjoying it is a spiritual experience!!

– Debby Hedison



*Clear Heart Sangha is a meditation group in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hahn, a Vietnamese Buddhist monk. Dharma teacher Joanne Friday leads the sangha. We meet on Sunday, May 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All are welcome. – Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

## In the kitchen

*You meet the nicest people in the kitchen! In the kitchen of our church, I mean.*

*One day I am talking to Clare about her fabulous homemade brochettes that she made right in our oven. Another day I watch Penny and Linda chatting as they wash the dishes after the tea. Then I see that newcomers are laughing as they figure out how to make the coffee together and talk about their kids. Older parishioners have the opportunity to meet the newcomers and newcomers feel more a part of our community.*

*It is the kitchen that is the heart of any home, and it is this way in our church also. Now that we have such a congenial kitchen, well organized and cozy, we have so many opportunities to meet and greet each other as we work and share together.*



*Do join us in the Coffee Hour experience by acting as host or hostess. Contact Lisa McHenry or Marie Younkin- Waldman .*

*We thank those who have contributed by helping already and we welcome more to join us.*

– Lisa and Marie, Hospitality Co-Chairs



In May, the Caring Connection is meeting on Thursday, May 27 at 10:15 a.m. at Lily Pads. We are looking forward to increasing our membership. If anyone is interested in learning more about our committee, please call or send an e-mail to Judi Marcy. – Judi Marcy

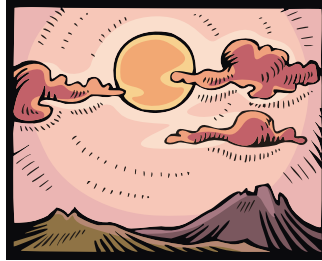
# Rev. Betty's Sabbatical

The Board and I have agreed upon a plan for the timing of my sabbatical leave. In July, I will have accrued five months of sabbatical leave under my Letter of Call and Agreement with UUCSC.

In 2011, I will take one month of sabbatical leave. The remaining four months of sabbatical will be taken in 2012. This schedule reflects what we believe is in the best interests of UUCSC.

Sabbatical is a time of

empowerment and growth for congregations. It can be a productive and creative time in the life of the congregation.



A Sabbatical Planning Committee has been formed to address and plan for all areas of congregational life, including worship services, pastoral care, and emergency pastoral coverage. We will distribute a comprehensive Sabbatical Booklet that carefully articulates the plans for this leave time.

I anticipate sabbatical will be a time of development for us all.

– Rev. Betty Kornitzer

## Contact Information for Rev. Betty Kornitzer

*\*Regular Office Hours:* Wednesdays: 3 - 6 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays: 9 - Noon, and other times, all by appointment.

*Days Off:* Monday and Tuesday.

*Minister's Study Telephone* (non-urgent calls): 284-3321

*Cell Phone* (urgent calls): 932-1515

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

*\*NOTE:* 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.

## Channing Memorial Church B&B Weekend

Fellow Unitarian Universalists, we invite you to experience an amazing "Newport Getaway" the weekend May 21 through 25, with accommodations provided by members of our Church participating in our UU B&B Fundraiser. Visit Newport's many historic mansions, beaches, Cliff Walk, Newport Art Museum, International Tennis Hall of Fame, the Redwood Library, historic Channing Memorial Church, other notable houses of worship, and many other attractions. Rates: \$80 single / \$95 double per night of stay.

To reserve accommodations e-mail [office@channingchurch.org](mailto:office@channingchurch.org). For more information visit <http://channingchurch.org/uubandb/>.

## Welcome House

Wednesday, May 12th is our day to provide a meal for the 20 residents and staff of Welcome House. The volunteers from our congregation brings a salad, an entree, or a dessert to the house by 5 p.m. Has your family volunteered? You'll enjoy the experience. Please contact Gerre Alderwick if you would like to volunteer or if you would like more information.



# A brief history of Unitarian Universalist involvement in and support of bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender issues

**1967** March – Unitarian Universalist Committee on Goals publishes results of its survey on beliefs and attitudes within the denomination: 7.7% of UUs believe that homosexuality should be discouraged by law; 80.2% that it should be discouraged by education, not law; 12% that it should not be discouraged by law or education; 0.1% that it should be encouraged.

**1969** September – LaForet, Colorado – Rev. James L. Stoll publicly declares himself to be homosexual at Student Religious Liberals (SRL) Conference.

**1970** July – General Assembly General Resolution to end Discrimination against Homosexuals and Bisexuals.

**1971** June – Rev. Richard Nash and Elgin Blair co-found UU Gay Caucus (which later becomes Interweave Continental) to lobby for the creation of an Office of Gay Affairs.

**1973** June – General Assembly General Resolution to Create an Office of Gay Affairs that will be staffed by gay people and be a resource to the Unitarian Universalist Association.

**1979** – Rev. Douglas Morgan Strong called to serve All Souls Church, Augusta, Maine, thus becoming the first out gay man in the UU ministry to be called to serve a congregation.

**1979** – Gay and Lesbian Affirmed (GALA) founded by Rev. Robert Wheatley and cosponsored by the Office of Gay Concerns and Ferry Beach Park Association.

**1984** June – General Assembly Business Resolution affirming the practice of UUA clergy performing Services of Union between same-gender couples.

**1986** – UUA adds non-discrimination clause for employees who are HIV-positive to Personnel Manual.

**1992** June – UUA Board of Trustees resolution expressing disapproval of the Boy Scouts of America's policy of discrimination against gay and atheist scouts and leaders.

**1993** April 25 – UUA endorses the March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Equal Rights and Liberation. UUA Board of Trustees adjourns its quarterly Boston meeting to reconvene in Washington, D.C., and attend the March.

**1993** June – General Assembly stages public protest against North Carolina's "crime against nature" laws. As required by GA 1987 resolution, UUA Board, staff, members, and GA delegates participated in candlelight vigil and witnessing.

**1994** June – General Assembly Resolution of Immediate Witness regarding Sexuality Education in Public Schools.

**1996** – UUA Board of Trustees passes resolution in support of Same-Gender Marriage.

**1996** April – Office name changes to Office of Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Transgender Concerns (OBGLTC) to reflect commitment to the transgender community.

**1996** June – General Assembly Resolution of Immediate Witness in Support of the Right to Marry for Same-Sex Couples.

**1999** June – General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness to Work to Change Discriminatory Policies of Boy Scouts of America.

**2000** June – 25% of all UUA congregations are Welcoming Congregations.

**2000** June – Liberal Religious Educators Association (LREDA) becomes first Welcoming Organization.

**2002** May 12 – Rev. Sean Parker Dennison called to serve South Valley UU congregation of Salt Lake City, Utah, thus becoming the first out transgender person in the UU ministry to be called to serve a congregation as a parish minister.

**2002** May 19 – Rev. Laurie J. Auffant called to serve Follen Church Society of Lexington, Mass., thus becoming the first out transgender person in the UU ministry to be called to serve a congregation as a minister of religious education.

**2004** February – UUA President's Freedom to Marry Fund is launched.

**2004** May 17 – UUA President Rev. William G. Sinkford legally marries Hillary and Julie Goodridge, lead plaintiffs in *Goodridge v. Massachusetts Department of Public Health* in Eliot Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Association.

**2006** June – 50% of all UUA congregations in the United States are Welcoming Congregations.

**2008** March – UUA Committee on Socially Responsible Investing files stockholder resolution with Wal-Mart to prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender identity (PDF).

**2010** April – 650 UUA congregations in the United States are Welcoming Congregations.

*Condensed from [http://www.uua.org/members/justice\\_diversity/bisexualgay/20962.shtml](http://www.uua.org/members/justice_diversity/bisexualgay/20962.shtml).*

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“Time does not change us.  
It just unfolds us.”

– Max Frisch (1911-1991), Swiss architect, playwright and novelist