

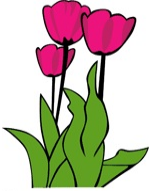


THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

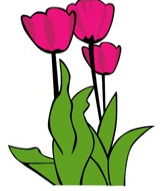
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 5

MAY 2012



May Services



May 6

Is it Spiritual to Pursue Happiness? – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

The XIV Dalai Lama seems to many to embody happiness—happiness against the odds, a virtue that is acquired and practiced. We will explore the meaning of happiness in contemporary life from the point of view of four global spiritual leaders. A show from the American Public Media radio series "On Being" (<http://being.publicradio.org/>) inspired this sermon.

The Service will include the New Member Welcoming Ceremony.

May 13

"Human Creativity" with Deanna Camputaro

Deanna's extraordinary dance troupe from Central Falls High School returns for its annual presentation, always an exciting and spiritual event.

May 20

"Wired" – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer with poet Larry Kripps*

Human beings seem to be hard-wired for connectivity with one another and with the universe. How has our use of social media influenced our sense of connection? Larry Kripps's poem "Wired" will be the backdrop for this exploration of 21st century connections. We'll explore the spiritual and emotional consequences of being "wired" in brave new ways.

May 27

Floral Perceptions from Poetry – *Thomas Casey Greene*

On Memorial Day, graves are traditionally decorated with flowers. Tom will remind us that poets have often described the role that flowers play in feeding the spirit.

Now retired, Tom Greene was an organist at Westminster Unitarian Church.

June 3

Desmond Tutu's Understanding of God and Humanity – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

The Nobel Laureate and Archbishop Emeritus of South Africa has a unique view of human nature. We will explore this view and how it relates to our Unitarian Universalist principles.

The Service will include the Bridging Ceremony.

The UUCSC Annual Meeting will take place after the service.



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.*

Staff Members

Debby Hedison, Religious Education Director

Michael Galib, Music Director

Kathleen Carland, Administrator

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Charles Donnelly, President

Nancy Rose, Vice President

Will Bender, Treasurer • Ron Creamer, Clerk

Joan Youngken • Lisa McHenry • Susan Farrell

Marie Younkin-Waldman

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Judi Marcy, Caring Connection Chair

David Floyd, Social Events Committee Chair

Vikki LePree, Gabrielle Torphy, & Melissa Hughes,

Hospitality Committee Chairs

Helene Gersuny, Worship Committee Chair

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.

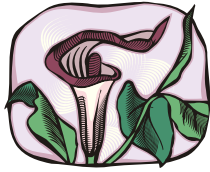
Office Telephone (non-urgent calls) – 284-3321 Cell Phone (urgent calls) – 932-1515.

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

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.”

*As part of her new part-time schedule, Rev. Betty will be in Florida with family from Friday, May 11
through Tuesday, May 15. In case of emergency, you can reach her on her cell phone.*

Pastoral concerns may be directed to Judi Marcy, chair of the Caring Connection.



The Minister's Message

By Rev. Betty Kornitzer

A Vision for UUCSC

As I bear witness to the amazing community we have formed, "sacred" words come to mind, words like family, safety, justice, belonging, oneness and service. Each week I am moved by the depth and breadth of our UUCSC community ties. Now it is time to take our faith and our sacred words more widely into the larger community. We have good news to share. May we demonstrate the gifts of our community, may our sanctuary be filled with new faces, may we be known by our beliefs and our actions. May we grow in faith. May we grow in love. May we grow in numbers. We have good news to share.

I share with you a poem that captures my sentiments. Enjoy.

Prayer for this Church (adapted) by Nancy Shaffer

May each one among us have skin that longs to touch
other skin: fingertips that long for other fingertips . . .
bodies that want to stand next to other bodies, not alone,
while singing or working, or stirring soup

May our doors be so open it is drafty inside,
and people sometimes shout because noises without
come also within. May those sheltered here
sometimes cry, all at once, letting tear water clean
what words by themselves cannot.

In silent times, may every one present
hear every one else breathing, and know this is not
separate from how the world breathes all night.
May we always have enough room for those
many who want to come in.

May those who cherish
this church be so glad they cannot stop speaking [of it],
cannot stop [inviting], and may the crowding itself be a gladness
as we keep [making room].

May we notice each one who is new and invite her to stay.

May our list of names for the Holy not ever
be finished; and may we hear God [laughing]
with us as we find still more.

Blessings, Peace & Love

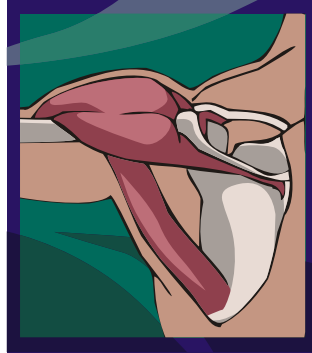
Betty

The President's Letter

First, I want to thank the Caring Connection and the congregation for all the wonderful support I have received. I recently had shoulder surgery and the congregation has been wonderful about providing meals, rides to physical therapy, and even helping me "escape" my "home confinement." I already knew how wonderful this congregation is but this helped me experience it in a different way.

The annual fund drive is coming to a close and the board would like to thank all of you have pledged for the coming year. This year, we decided to approach the drive differently. Great things are happening at the UUCSC and with your continued support, both in time and money, we will continue to do even

greater things in South County and beyond. We are blessed with a great Finance Committee, a dedicated chair in Aline Couture, and volunteers who helped with the canvass.



As far as I know, nine of us from the UUCSC will be going to Phoenix attend the UUA Justice General Assembly in June. This year is spe-

cial because there will be fewer workshops and more "witnessing" related to Arizona's immigration law. The more people who go, the louder the message. Anyone who is interested can contact John Glasheen for more information.

I can't believe this is my next-to-last President's Letter. As the church year winds down, we need to think about the coming year. Four board terms are expiring and need to be filled at the annual business meeting in June: two trustees, the vice president and the clerk. The nominating committee is made up of Mary Finnegan and Paulette Chamberas. If you are interested in taking one of these positions, please get in touch with Mary or Paulette.

– Charlie Donnelly

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).

Lay Pastoral Associates Team

The Lay Pastoral Associates Team (PAT) assists Rev. Betty in caring for members and friends of UUCSC who are experiencing times of challenge and transition. Pastoral Associates provide a caring presence. They lis-

ten and help nurture the spirit. Rev. Betty continues to offer pastoral care; the lay team supplements her work, affording a wider and deeper resource of attention to our growing community.

Call Rev. Betty (284-3321) with your pastoral concerns. She will speak with you and make referrals to the PAT when appropriate. A brochure and further explanation are available in church and on our website.

The PAT is distinct from the Caring Connection, chaired by Judi Marcy. The Caring Connection continues to be a caring resource, offering support and providing meals, rides to church, and helping those without transportation to get to the supermarket, bank, or medical appoint-

ment. Their caring outreach and is a mainstay of congregational life at UUCSC.

Our Wellness Team

Our Wellness Team offers a technique that helps people prepare for surgery, heal faster and use less pain medication. This mind-body-spirit technique is also used successfully in lessening the side effects of chemotherapy, radiation, and the challenges of acute and long-term health issues. Many congregants have used this program with success.

Current members of the Wellness Team are Sarah Bell, Paulette Chamberas, Lindsey Crowninshield, Val Follett, Lynda Wells and Rev. Betty Kornitzer.

Coffee and Conversation with Rev. Betty – Sunday, May 6 & 20 from 11:30 to 12:30

All are invited to join Rev. Betty for coffee and conversation after the worship service on Sunday, May 20. Please pick up some refreshments in the community room and join us. We will gather in a circle at the front of the sanctuary to share conversation about whatever is on your mind. This is an especially good opportunity for newcomers to UUCSC to ask questions and get to know some of our members.



The Music Corner

by Mike Galib, Music Director

It has been a number of months since I've shared tidbits of thoughts here in the Music Corner. Perhaps it was the dreary winter-like months, however mild they were this year, or perhaps a dip in inspiration.

Indeed, a monthly dose of finding something more profound contained within the quotidian seems difficult on the surface, yet seems to take on a new importance with days and years moving ahead as they do. After all, how else to pass the time?

On the one hand, we have plenty of it to waste, and on the other, so little to use well. Trying to wrap my head around the unavailability of most people I know to even get a cup of coffee together for a half hour, I was delighted to find this wonderful message contained in a short documentary about Fred Rogers that appeared recently on PBS: "Deep and simple is far

more essential than shallow and complex."

And that's it for now.

CONCERTS

While it's about a month away, I want to share one upcoming concert that I'm most excited about—the spring concert of the Rhode Island Children's Chorus Upper Choirs on Sunday, June 3, at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence.

Indeed, it is the day of the annual meeting, but what better reason to get up to the capital later in the afternoon! Scores of children singing beautifully, and yours truly on the piano. While a hike for South Countiers, it's quite worth it, even at \$10 a ticket. I hope to see many of you there.



Will you be hospitable?

Many thanks to those of you who have hosted a coffee hour after service this year. Several of you have hosted more than once and we want to give you a very special thank you.

May and June hosts are needed. This is a difficult time of year for our committee to fill our coffee hour dates. Please consider helping with one, particularly if you have not volunteered this year. The directions are very easy to follow and we will team you up with another family so you will have help.

– Vikki, Gabriella & Melissa

Our Annual Spring Plant Sale is May 20

Our Annual Spring Plant Sale will take place on May 20, the Sunday after Mothers Day, before and after the church service. If you are a gardener, think now about separating perennials and thinning ground covers and potting the results for the sale. House plants that are snipped now and nicely potted are most welcome. You are urged to look over your flower beds that need some space. Now is the best time to pot your goodies.

Questions about potting? Need pots? Have some pots (preferably clean) to contribute? The person to call is Helene Gersuny.





MONEY MATTERS

The monthly column from the Finance Committee

As you may have noticed, the Tree of Life has made a move to the right of the Sanctuary and has had a facelift, thanks to the efforts of Deb Hedison and Linda Whyte Burrell. As soon as the transformation is complete, Louise McLeod will create a brochure that will be left in the office and community room with information about making a donation for your leaf. The brochure will be a tri-fold and will include a picture of the Tree, a short history of UUCSC, donation details, and a tear-off form.

Donating to have a leaf engraved is well underway. You don't have to wait for the brochures to be printed in order to donate a leaf for your upcoming important event—a graduation, Mother's Day, a summer wedding, a special birthday, or “just because.” Kathy Carland, our Office Administrator, is the person to contact. Please call Kathy or stop by the office Tuesday through Friday when she is available. If she is not in, just leave a message and she will get back to you.

A donation of at least \$250 is suggested. The engraving allows three lines of 25 characters (including spaces) for each line. Engraving is free.

It will be fun to see the Tree “grow.”

Next month, when our pledge campaign is completed, we will report the results of this year's efforts. Thanks to all who have already filled in your pledge card for the coming fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,
Aline Couture, Finance Chair

The Art of Allowing: A Program on the Law of Attraction for Manifesting the Fullness of Life

Presented by Christine Phoenix Green

Thursday, May 24 from 7 to 8:15 p.m.

It is ancient knowledge that how we think is what we get in life. The magnificent “secret” is that when we change our thinking, we can call forth our dreams and desires into manifestation, and move through our challenges in a state of blessing and support to find meaning and peace in all situations. This program will help you to unlock the powerful creative source within you to manifest a life of your dreams. Fate is when you just roll with the punches, but destiny is when you create your future through new and positive thinking.

General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona June 20 - 24

PLEASE join Rev. Betty and at least six others from UUCSC for Justice GA 2012.

Register Now! You'll be glad you did. You can registration and make housing reservations at <http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/index.shtmlregistration>.

General Assembly 2012 will be a gathering with multiple ways of engaging in justice work for people of all ages. Find out about it by going to <http://www.uua.org/ga/2012/>.



We will partner with communities in Arizona to bring attention to the injustices and human rights abuses they face.

Our service will allow all GA participants to witness in ways that reflect our commitment to justice, equity and compassion for all. We will also do hands-on work with our community partners.

We will leave General Assembly grounded in our faith, energized for justice and with resources to bring this work home to our congregations. – Betty Kornitzer



Religious Education News and Events

By Debby Hedison, Director of Religious Education

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

*Let religion be to us the wonder and lure
of that which is only partly known and understood:
An eye that glories in nature's majesty and beauty,
and a heart that rejoices in deeds of kindness and of courage.*

— Vincent B. Silliman

Easter Hunt

The Easter canned goods hunt was a huge success enjoyed by all ages. The tree climbing award went to Teal, Eli and Carter! Thank you everyone for your donations. Help is needed now to bring all those wonderful canned goods to the Johnnycake Center. Please see Debby if you can help!

Adopt A Box

Thanks to everyone who brought a box home. I would like to schedule a library party and begin to organize and shelve the books, so please return your boxes as soon as possible!

Teachers

Thanks to all our Session 4 teachers for a job well done! Gratitude to Rosemary Galiani, Michael Mutschler, Barbara Pagh, Pete Migliaccio, Elena Krajewski and Steve Andrus.

Youth Happenings

Suzanne Paton is doing a great job pulling together great activities for our Junior Youth, including making a meal and delivering it to Welcome House and organizing a trip to the Duxbury youth con on May 12 and a possible sleep-over at Cedar Hill Retreat Center.

Our Senior Youth are working hard on preparing for the Youth Service on April 29, as well as hosting their first District-wide Youth Conference on May 11.

Food and Feedback

All families, teachers, children and youth are invited to join us after the service on June 10 for some good food and a chance to hear all your important feedback about our RE programming. Please save the date!

Namaste,
Debby

Reminder: My office hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Could you be the next Welcome House meal coordinator?

On the second Wednesday of each month, our congregation provides the evening meal for the guests at Welcome House in Peace Dale, our area

homeless shelter. Gerre Alderwick has coordinated this program for several years, and now it's time for her to take a break. Could you be the next Welcome House meal coordinator? Gerre would be delighted to act as your mentor as you become familiar with the routine. If you are willing to devote a little of your time to this very worthwhile project, please contact Gerre.

This month, we will provide the Welcome House evening meal on Wednesday, May 9. We need a salad, an entree, and dessert for twenty people. The food, or the ingredients to make it, must be at Welcome House by 5 p.m. If you can help, please contact Gerre.



Community Contra Dance on Saturday, June 2nd

The fourth annual South County Open Band Contra Dance comes to the UUCSC sanctuary on Saturday, June 2, at 7:30 p.m. Once again, live music will be provided by a community-based string band that will include several UUCSC members.

All the dances this night will be taught by expert dance caller Lucia Watson. Contra dance is very easy to learn—no prior experience is needed. You don't need to come to a contra dance with a partner because everyone dances with everyone else. It's a good idea to wear loose comfortable clothing and flat-soled shoes.



The doors will open at 7 p.m. and the dancing continues from 7:30 until 10:30. Admission is \$8. We hope to see you there! Volunteers willing to help move chairs before or after this dance will be thanked profusely. Please speak to Harry or Ali Buffum for more details.

UU Legislative Ministry News

At its eighth annual meeting on March 18, the U.U. Legislative Ministry of Rhode Island voted to support four legislative priority initiatives during this General Assembly session: tax fairness, women's health and reproductive rights, affordable housing, and change to federal campaign finance laws.

To read position statements on all four of these issues, go to the UUCSC website (<http://www.uusouthcountyri.org>) and click on "Legislative Ministry" under "What's New at UU."

The Legislative Ministry is now arranging local meetings with legislators. At these meetings, you will be able to ask you state senator or representative about his or her views on these issues and explain the UULMRI position. For information about these meetings, please contact John Glasheen or Larry Kelland. – John Glasheen

Our Meditation Group meets at a new time

Our Meditation Group now meets in the sanctuary every Thursday from 9 to 9:30 a.m. We practice sitting meditation and may share a reading and a time for discussion. All are welcome. No meditation experience is necessary.



From the Administrator

Each day as I enter the Sanctuary I am newly aware of the beauty and peace of this space. The varied Spring flower arrangements by Sarah Bell have such a simple sweetness and reflect such lovely aspects of Spring.



Summer is just on the horizon and planning is underway for the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 3rd; committees are updating job descriptions and annual reports prepared. I am working on a building and office key inventory and all congregational keys are being documented. Please let me know if you have keys to the building and which ones so I can add to our list.

Beginning this month, staff offices are locked on off hours. In addition, please make every effort to make sure the building is secure and locked when you or your group leave—someone should be designated to check all locks and windows, especially with the warmer weather upon us. – *Kathy Carland*

Clear Heart Sangha

Sunday, May 6

6 to 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary

This is a meditation group in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hahn, a Vietnamese Buddhist monk. The sangha is led by dharma teacher Joanne Friday. All are welcome.

Program on immigration issues continues this month

The six-week program on immigration issues developed by the UUA will continue this month on four Wednesday evenings—May 9, May 16, May 23, and May 30. Topics include:

- Economics of (im)migration
- Security, enforcement and human rights
- Who benefits from a broken system?
- Seeking solutions

Immigration as a Moral Issue is the UUA's current Congregational Study/Action Issue. The April sessions were well-received. Please feel free to join us in May!

– *John Glasheen*

Womensphere Spring Gathering: Sound for Joy

Saturday, May 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please join women of the Ballou Channing District for a day of shared activities. We will experience sound as a tool for spiritual practice.

The gathering will take place at Murray Unitarian Universalist Church, 505 North Main St., Attleboro, Mass. Please bring a bell with you. The fee of \$25 includes lunch. A few scholarships are available. To register or for more information contact Susan Rand at 1susanrand1@comcast.net.



Rev. Betty Kornitzer's April 1 sermon entitled "Courage," in which she mentioned an elderly couple walking to the grocery store, the husband helping his wife with her walker, inspired Linda Hull to write this poem.

Walking the Wall

by Linda Hull

He leans on his cane,
one hand on her walker.
When her wheels catch in the crack
he pulls the metal bar up, freeing her.
They walk the wall
from clam shack to beach.
Others jog, walk past,
couples, mothers with strollers.
But slowly, step by step,
together they walk on daily
Through life, along the wall.

MUSIC AT LILY PADS

Saturday, May 5

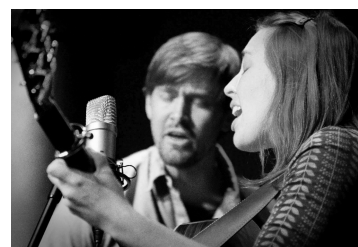
Bruce Molsky and special guests The Honey Dewdrops

Bruce Molsky has been called “the Rembrandt of the Appalachian fiddle.” Lily Pads is pleased to welcome him for an exciting solo performance.

In addition to a prolific solo career, performing on fiddle, guitar, and banjo, Molsky frequently joins genre-busting supergroups such as the Grammy-nominated Fiddlers Four; Mozaik with Hungarian Nikola Parov; and Celtic giant Donal Lunny. He was on Nickel Creek’s farewell tour, and performs in a trio with Scottish fiddler Aly Bain and Sweden’s great Ale Moller.

Hailing from the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Charlottesville, Virginia, The Honey Dewdrops are Laura Wortman and Kagey Parrish. Writing and singing in the veins of folk and old country music, Laura and Kagey have been touring the country during the past four years. They played on “A Prairie Home Companion” and have shared the stage with musical greats such as the Carolina Chocolate Drops, Mary Gauthier, and the Matt Flinner Trio.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and music begins at 7:30. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door, and available at Sweet Cakes Bakery and Café in Peace Dale, the Alternative Food Co-op and Looney Tunes II in Wakefield, and online at BrownPaperTickets.com.



Sunday, May 6

Thula Sizwe



We are extremely pleased to host a special afternoon performance by Thula Sizwe from South Africa. Thula Sizwe is a ten-voice a capella singing group that performs in the Zulu style, accompanied by traditional drumming, and at times in traditional costume. They performed at Nelson Mandela’s 1994 inauguration, and have worked with Paul Simon. These talented men carry a message of reconciliation and forgiveness. It is the source of their talent and their happiness.

Doors open at 2:30 p.m. and music begins at 3. All ages are welcome. A \$10-per person donation is requested.

Saturday, May 19

Roy Book Binder with very special guest Joe Fletcher

Roy Book Binder (“the Book”) traveled with The Rev. Gary Davis in the 60’s, rediscovered Pink Anderson and revived his career in the 70’s and appears in The Blues Who’s Who and The Big Book of Blues. He has appeared on TNN’s “Nashville Now” thirty times with many of country music’s biggest stars and has toured with Bonnie Raitt, JJ Cale and Hot Tuna. At Merlefest, the annual music festival in Wilkesboro, N.C., “the Book” has hosted the acoustic blues stage for the past sixteen years.

Joe Fletcher, an Americana artist from Providence, fronts the country blues-based outfit The Wrong Reasons and also plays solo acoustic shows throughout the country. Joe appeared at Lily Pads in January 2011 with the Wrong Reasons, opening for The Low Anthem, and returned in June 2011 with “Brown Bird.” For this appearance, Joe will do a solo acoustic set. We are thrilled to have him back for one of his last area shows before he takes the stage at Newport Folk Festival in July.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and music begins at 7:30. For more information, please visit www.musicatlilypads.org



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Now I become myself. It's taken
Time, many years and places;
I have been dissolved and shaken,
Worn other people's faces,
Run madly, as if Time were there,
Terribly old, crying a warning,
'Hurry, you will be dead before—'
(What? Before you reach the morning?
Or the end of the poem is clear?
Or love safe in the walled city?)

— May Sarton, from the poem "Now I Become Myself"

Poet and novelist May Sarton (1912-1995), a Unitarian, was born in Belgium and came with her family to the United States in 1916. She grew up in Cambridge, Mass. where her father, a historian of science, was an instructor at Harvard. In 1958, after both parents died, she lived in New Hampshire and Maine.

During her lifetime, the literary establishment ignored or dismissed her work. Critical recognition came very late in her life. Today, more than forty of Sarton's books are still in print.

May Sarton was born 100 years ago this month.