



THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 10

NOVEMBER 2010

November Services

November 7

The UU Second Principle: 'Justice, Equity and Compassion in Human Relations' – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

What does this principle mean in your daily life and in your life as a Unitarian Universalist?

We will explore the three elements of this principle.

After the Service, at 11:45, Jennifer Ead and a panel of Rhode Island Muslim women will speak with the congregation about their Islamic faith and invite conversation and questions about Islam and being Muslim in America.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS! REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR!

November 14

Sabbatical – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

This coming January, Betty will take one month of her five-month sabbatical time. She will take the four remaining months in 2012. In this service, we will explore the rationale for ministerial sabbatical and Betty will discuss how she plans to use her sabbatical time.

After the service, at 11:30, the congregation is invited to join in a conversation and question and answer session with Rev. Betty, the Sabbatical Planning Team and the Committee on Ministry.

Come find out how things will work while the minister is away.

November 21

A Service of Celebration and Gratitude – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Debby Hedison
& the Children and Youth of UUCSC*

Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service

Children and adults are invited to bring seasonal fruits and vegetables to donate to Welcome House.

November 28

"It Ain't Necessarily So . . ." – *Mac Richardson*

Right out of Porgy and Bess . . . How truthful are passages in the Bible?

Who wrote them and why are there so many conflicting and contradictory statements?

How do we search for truth in our own lives and for the divine within us?

December 5

The Third UU Principle: 'Acceptance of One Another and Encouragement
to Spiritual Growth in Our Congregations' – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*



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

27 North Rd., Peace Dale, R.I. 02879 • (401) 783 -4170

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

Board of Directors

Charles Donnelly, President • Alice Buckley, Vice President

Will Bender, Treasurer • Ron Creamer, Clerk

Sally Barney • Joan Youngken • Ali Buffum • David Hamel – Trustees

Tracy Hart, Past President



Val Follett & Barbara Pagh, Membership Committee Co-Chairs • Kathy Swink, Worship Committee Chair

John Glasheen, Social Justice Action Council Coordinator

Pam Santos, Religious Education Committee Chair • Carolyn Hurdis, Personnel Committee Chair

Jean Burke, Linda Whyte Burrell & Lindsey Crowninshield, Committee on Ministry

Aline Couture, Finance Committee Chair • Alice Buckley, Facilities Committee Chair



Peter Himmel, Adult Religious Education Committee Chair • Susan Moreland, Music Committee Chair

Judi Marcy, Caring Connection Chair • Eileen DeMaio, Social Events Committee Chair

Lisa McHenry & Vikki LePree, Hospitality Committee Co-Chairs

Myron Waldman, Publicity Coordinator



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

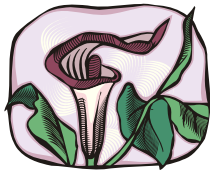
(401) 783-4170 • e-mail address: uucscri@yahoo.com

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

Generosity of Spirit

"If we agree in love, there is no disagreement that can do us any injury, but if we do not, no other agreement can do us any good. Let us endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace."

I quote Hosea Ballou, a distinguished early 19th century Universalist theologian. Ballou's words reflect the unique Universalist principle of universal salvation founded on the understanding of God as profoundly loving. My colleague Rev. Richard Gilbert has referred to this quality as "generosity of spirit."

The phrase "generosity of spirit" stirred my heart. This is a quality that we might aspire to as individuals and as a faith community. To me, generosity of spirit implies both trust and humility, and it is what Hosea Ballou meant by "agreeing in love."

Our spirits are generous when we trust one another; when we trust, in our hearts, that we are all doing the best we can do. Trust really does require a generous spirit. I believe that presuming good faith is a crucial part of personal and community life. That means that until proven wrong, we trust in the good faith and good intentions of one another. Sometimes it's difficult to do that. That's where the generosity comes in. It is founded in the Universalist principle of love, and it is salvific.* As Ballou said, "If we do not [agree in love], no other agreement will do us any good."

I believe humility is also indispensable in developing a generosity of spirit. The need to believe we are right (making someone else wrong) is a sure block to "agreeing in love." Humility is expansive and inclusive; it welcomes diversity and nurtures creativity and imagination. Humility is a sign of an open heart that is not closed by fear. Only such a heart and spirit can be generous to agree in love.

My friends, I hope you will ponder the phrase "generosity of spirit." Play with it in your mind and perhaps make it a persona and community aspiration. After all, it is part of our Universalist heritage.

Blessings, Peace and Love,

Betty

* pertaining to the power of redemption or salvation.

Contact Information for Rev. Betty Kornitzer:

Regular Office Hours:

Wednesdays: 3:00 - 6:00

Thursdays and Fridays: 9:00-Noon,
and other times, all by appointment.

Days Off: Monday and Tuesday.

Office Telephone (non-urgent calls): 284-3321

Cell Phone (urgent calls): 932-1515

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

Sharing the Sunday collection

The Board has been considering ways to reach out to the larger community. We are presently in the process of finalizing plans for sharing non-pledge funds from our Sunday collection. We see this practice of generosity as part of UUCSC's mission and a vital part of the spiritual life of this community. We anticipate finalizing plans at the November board meeting. All suggestions and comments are welcome. Please contact Charlie Donnelly.

The President's Letter

Word is getting out about us. The other night I was at St. Augustine's Church for a potluck. The woman next to me asked which church I was from. I told her the UUCSC. She told me that she heard good things about us and asked me if I liked it. I told her "I hope so—I'm the President."

This was the second time recently that I heard someone in the community say good things about us. There is a lot happening and that's a very good thing. With all of our activities—including films, art, and music, the Sunday services, and Small Groups—sometimes it seems like we have three times as many people as we actually do.

But we have to keep in mind that communication is vital. It is going to become more important as Reverend Betty will be going on a sabbatical this coming January for one month and for four months in 2012.

The board is going to do its part by making sure there are strong board liaisons to the various committees. One of the major ways that committees communicate is

with their monthly reports to the board.

The board is in a unique position because we have a "global" view of the congregation. Outside of the



monthly committee reports, a good practice for individuals and groups to adopt is to send the Board an "FYI (for your information)" e-mail. Because the board has a global view of the congregation, we should know where dominos will fall. In other words, action taken by one individual or group may affect other individuals or groups within the congregation.

Recently I ran into Linda Barden, executive director of Welcome House of South County. She raved about the First Principle art show that was held on October 9th. Credit

goes to Pam Santos for organizing this wonderful event. Linda told me that she hopes we can do this on an annual basis.

The Men's Group is starting up again. The group usually takes a hiatus over the summer. Started several years ago, it meets once a month (fourth Thursday at 7 p.m. at the UUCSC). The format is simple: there is a check-in and then the conversation can go anywhere. What is said is expected to be kept confidential. Contact Dave Frederick if you are interested.

Finally, I want to mention that the "Swords into Plowshares" film series is going on the road and giving us exposure outside of our four walls. Recently "The Mission" was shown at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. In the coming weeks, other films will be shown at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Kingston Congregational (both in Kingston), and Congregation Beth David of Narragansett.

Until next month,

— Charlie Donnelly

Spiritual Book Reflection Group

Wednesday, November 3, 10 & 17
and December 1 & 8

We will read and reflect on *A Return to Love* by Marianne Williamson. This book is really about a return to Self. If



you are interested, please get a copy of the book and begin reading. On November 3, we will discuss through the chapter entitled "You." Note: Please suspend judgment about the language, which will be our very first topic of discussion.

How to help for the holidays

Those of you who are wondering how you can help our friends in our local community during the holidays should know that Debby Hedison and Marie Younkin-Waldman are working with the kids to create a special Jonnycake Center Awareness day on Sunday, November 14 during coffee hour after the service. The kids will collect scarves, mittens, gloves, hats and sweaters to take to the Jonnycake Center in Peace Dale. Jonnycake will get them to many people who need them. Information will be available about what types of help the Jonnycake Center needs to provide for everyone during the holiday season. A couple of bins for food donations also will be available. If you won't be there on November 14, you may give your items to Debby and the kids ahead of time. We hope you will help the kids to help others.



— Marie Younkin-Waldman and Debby Hedison



The Music Corner

by Mike Galib, Music Director

Over the summer I attempted a rather daring literary feat, something which, historically, the average person takes more than a decade to complete. For the very first time in my life, I read every installment of the Harry Potter series.

Sure, I had the advantage of the books already being out so I didn't have to wait ten years to read them all. And granted, this means I'm about thirteen years behind the times, with the first Harry Potter coming out midway through the Clinton administration. While I can see the point of view from which this criticism might arise, I'm happy to announce I'm looking forward to discovering who Lady Gaga is in 2022.

Where did the sudden interest in Harry come from? I had mistakenly and snootily imagined for years that Harry Potter was mass produced drivel while I maintained the high road with such classics as *The Lion King* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. It wasn't until my best friend starting getting exasperated with me—for things such as

not seeing how that building we were passing was “so Diagon Alley,” or how I didn't know what apparating was—that action was taken. He bought me the first Harry Potter book as a surprise gift, with the simple, implicit understanding that our friendship was contingent on its reading.

And now, with the last book coming out on the big screen in just a couple weeks, I can't wait to get to the first midnight showing.

It's funny how things we used to think trivial can become so important to us. As pure speculation, it would seem likely that many of the open-minded and actively thinking congregation members here at UUCSC never envisioned themselves magically transformed through something like worship at a church. It's wonderful how those things we think of “other people” doing become our passions as well. I hope the music we make at services helps you feel a little Dumbledorian magic on your Sundays, and we'll keep doing our best to make sure you do.

Music at Lily Pads presents another fantastic show in November

Our congregation's live music series continues on Friday, November 12 when we present Vermont singer-songwriter Anais Mitchell and indie-folk four-piece Horse Feathers from Portland, Oregon. This very special double bill is our first to feature talent from outside Rhode Island.



Anais Mitchell writes songs that are evocative and heartfelt. Her latest disc features guests including Ani DiFranco, Justin Vernon of Bon Iver, Ben Knox Miller of The Low Anthem, and Greg Brown. Anais complements her full-throated singing with a strong fingerpicking guitar style, and moves as if consumed by the music. She is backed by journeyman guitarist-vocalist Jefferson Hamer and multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Rachel Ries.

Horse Feathers has spent the past two years touring. Their live shows are characterized by packed houses of silent, attentive crowds listening intently to every note and every empty space. A recent collaboration with members of the Oregon Ballet Theatre met with great critical acclaim, and this year they played the South by Southwest Festival in Texas and the Newport Folk Festival. They have been touring all over the U.S. and Europe.

Tickets for this show are \$15, and are available at Sweet Cakes Bakery, Looney Tunes II, and the Alternative Food Co-op.





MONEY MATTERS

The monthly column from the Finance Committee

During the next few months, the Finance Committee will be addressing some of the concerns you voiced at the Cottage Meetings that were held last year. We are using the 2010 Comprehensive Evaluation of Our Shared Ministry as our guide.

- *Some expressed the need for a vision of where we are going and what is expected of each of us. One voiced the need for the Strategic Plan to be shared more widely.*

Our Committee has worked through the summer on a 5-year projected budget. At our September Program Council meeting, we distributed the plan for comments and suggestions. We have incorporated the suggestions and have issued a revised version for Committee comments. We hope to present the final draft to the Board at their November meeting. Once we have the “final edition” we will bring it to you here in Money Matters. We believe it is a realistic and sound financial plan. Of course, the budget for each fiscal year will be brought to the Congregation for a vote at our Annual Meeting.

- *We should all know about and understand the Congregation's finances, but we don't. Some said we should know what our expenses are; it seems some don't understand what things cost. Some say they want more concrete information about our finances.*

In an effort to show what things cost, we will take a budget category or two each month and break those costs down for you. Since we now own our building, we thought we would begin with Facilities. This includes the following:

Condo fees – \$709.90 monthly

Electricity – \$3,700 budgeted for the year. Last year we spent \$2,255.

Heat – \$10,500 budgeted for the year. Last year we spent \$9,183.

Insurance – \$3,000 budgeted for the year. Last year we spent \$2,514.

Mortgage – \$3,633 monthly.

Repairs and Maintenance – \$3,000 budgeted for the year. Last year we spent \$3,633.

Supplies – \$1,000 budgeted annually. Last year we spent \$982.

Respectfully submitted,
Aline Couture, Finance Committee Chair

Lay Pastoral Associates

A Lay Pastoral Associates Team (PAT) has formed to assist Rev. Betty in caring for members and friends of UUCSC who are experiencing times of challenge and transition.

The team has participated in a five-week training program; Rev. Betty will supervise their work within the congregation. Rev. Betty will continue



offering pastoral care; the lay team will supplement her work, thus affording a wider and deeper resource of attention to our growing community.

Pastoral Associates provide a caring presence. They listen and help nurture the spirit. Members are Cindy Berry, Val Follett, Penny Hall, Pat O'Reilly and Lynda Wells.

The PAT is distinct from the Caring Connection, chaired by Judi Marcy. The Caring Connection will continue to be a caring resource, offering support and providing meals, rides to church, helping those without transportation to get to the supermarket, bank, or medical appointment. Their caring outreach and is a mainstay of congregational life at UUCSC.

The PAT will begin pastoral visits in mid-November; Rev. Betty will accompany Pastoral Associates on initial visits. Call Rev. Betty (284-3321) with your pastoral concerns; she will speak with you and make referrals to the PAT when appropriate. During the January sabbatical, and when Rev. Betty is away, Cindy Berry will coordinate the services of the PAT. A PAT brochure and further explanation will be provided at the informational meeting on sabbatical after the service on November 14.

– Rev. Betty Kornitzer



Religious Education News and Events

By Debby Hedison, Director of Religious Education

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

Hi, Everyone! If you're loving the leaves and color and smells of autumn, we are all doing a-okay.

Religious Education news:

Dates to take pretty seriously(!):

Friday, Nov. 5 at 9:30 a.m. – R.E. Committee meeting at church. We welcome newcomers, so please join us!

Friday evening, Nov. 5 – Junior Youth Gathering. Ask Deb Hedison or Pam Santos about specifics.

Friday, Nov. 5 to Sunday, Nov. 7 – Senior Youth retreat at Cedar Hill in Duxbury, Mass. Meet at church at 5 p.m. Friday; return to church at noon on Sunday.

Friday, Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. – “World Dinner.” Updates about this wonderful event are to follow.

Our “Coming of Age” group is ON!!! The following are meeting date for our 9th and 10 graders:

Sunday, Oct. 31 – Regular gathering at the upstairs Greenway space, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Sunday, Nov. 7 – Join your family or peers for service.

Sunday, Nov. 14 – Regular Gathering at the upstairs Greenway space, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Sunday, Nov. 21 – Intergenerational service.

Starting on Sunday, November 28 we will have an all ages (K through 5th grade) holiday program including holiday crafting, music making and a special holiday ending! All adults interested in participating in this purely fun time, please contact Debby Hedison.

The 6 through 8th grade class had a wonderful experience at the Wakefield Baptist church on October 17. Thanks to Lindsey Crowninshield and Chris DePaola for leading the group!

Guest at Your Table is coming! This is the most wonderful way to spread the idea of sharing at your own dining table at home. By celebrating Guest at Your Table in our congregation, we are helping to nurture a spirit of gratitude and “justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.” Guest at Your Table fosters understanding and awareness of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee’s human rights work.

In closing, I feel gratitude for our babies, children and youth who keep everything in sacred perspective.

Debby Hedison

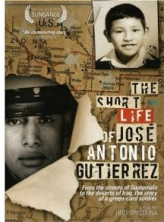
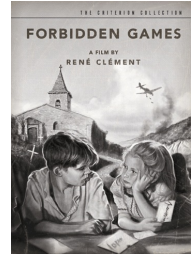
Swords into Plowshares: A Film Series for Peace

This film series continues in November with two great films

Forbidden Games

Wednesday, Nov. 3rd at Kingston Congregational Church at 7 p.m.

A timeless evocation of childhood innocence corrupted, Rene Clement's 'Forbidden Games' tells the story of a young girl orphaned by World War II and the farm boy she joins in a fantastical world of the macabre. This unique film features astonishing performances by its child stars. Academy Award, Best Foreign Film, 1952. Facilitated by Professor Jaime Dice.



The Short Life of Jose Antonio Gutierrez

Monday, Nov. 8th at Congregation Beth David, Narragansett at 7 p.m.

A few hours after the Iraqi War began, "green card soldier" Marine Lance Cpl. Jose Antonio Gutierrez's photo was broadcast all over the world—he was the first American soldier to be killed in Iraq. This moving documentary tells the story of a onetime street kid from Guatemala who headed north full of hopes for a better life. Facilitated by Lorraine Adler.

Everything you always wanted to know about sabbatical

Sunday, Nov. 14 at 11:45 a.m.

You've been hearing me talk about sabbatical for a while, and now it's time to discuss my sabbatical plans and the plans for congregational life in my absence. I hope you will participate in the November 14th informational meeting. This will also be an opportunity to ask questions. I look forward to sharing my plans for a directed writing and poetry workshop as well as retreat time. To refresh your memory, here's the background:

I am now enjoying my seventh year as your minister, and I have accrued five months of sabbatical leave according to my Letter of Agreement with UUCSC. Because of the many positive changes that have been happening in the life of our beloved community, the Board and I have agreed that I will divide the sabbatical between 2011 and 2012. In 2011, I will take one month of sabbatical leave, in January. I will take the remaining four months in 2012. This schedule reflects what we believe is in the best interests of UUCSC

Sabbatical is a unique time of empowerment and growth for congregations. I expect it will be a productive and creative time for UUCSC.

The Sabbatical Planning Committee has planned for all areas of congregational life—worship services, pastoral care, and emergency pastoral coverage have been arranged. A comprehensive Sabbatical Booklet will be printed, carefully articulating coverage and plans for this leave time. The Sabbatical Booklet will be handed out at the informational meeting following worship on November 14. I hope to see you there.

— Rev. Betty

UUWorld discussion centers on immigration

A small but enthusiastic group attended the first *UUWorld* discussion on October 18. Discussion of the fall issue centered on "Focus on Immigration," concerning the debate at the UUA 2010 General Assembly about moving the 2010 General Assembly, scheduled for Phoenix, to another city in protest of Arizona's anti-immigration law. The UUA Board had planned to move the meeting, but UUA President Rev. Peter Morales advocated staying in Phoenix and carrying out a "Justice General Assembly." "Focus on Immigration" outlined in detail the process that fully and carefully reviewed the meaning and consequences of the policy choices and the ultimate decision to hold GA in Phoenix. The Rev. Jose Ballister, minister at Bell Street Chapel in Providence and a member of the Latino UU Networking Association, helped to frame the language of the discussion. He was quoted as saying, "I came to GA having decided I was not going to GA in Phoenix, because of the safety issue, regardless of what the body decided. Now I will. Safety is still an issue, but I'm willing to take the risk for the good of the Association."

Another *UUWorld* discussion will take place in February. Please consider joining this discussion of important issues in our denomination. To keep current with the denomination's immigration advocacy, please check www.standing-onthesideoflove.org.

— John Glasheen

Building the Beloved Community

World Community Day 2010, sponsored by South County Church Women United, is celebrated annually in the first week of November as an ecumenical service that brings people together to share their aspirations and challenges. This year's program, "Building the Beloved Community," begins with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision of



a world in which people of many nations and traditions work together in a commitment of nonviolent means.

Together we consider examples of economic injustice in the light of a goal: communities that promote the dignity, safety, and economic opportunities for all—which Dr. King memorably called "The Beloved Community."

The program will take place on Friday, Nov. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at Church of the Ascension on Main Street in Wakefield. Please come and join with members of many of our area churches. Bring a potluck dish to share along with your place setting.

Sociable Singing

Sociable Singing at UUCSC now happens approximately once a month in the Sanctuary after coffee hour. We like to get together to sing folk songs, pop songs, gospel, Beatles, etc. just for the fun of it. All are welcome; bring a musical instrument if you wish. If you have a favorite song you would like to share, please bring about ten copies of the lyrics. Our next session is on Sunday, November 21 from noon to 1 p.m. Contact



Harry Buffum for more information. Coming in December: Holiday Sing-along and Potluck Lunch on Sunday, December 12.

— Harry Buffum

The UUCSC Meditation Group

Our 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.

Our new neighbors

In case you are not aware, we have new neighbors. The Education Exchange recently moved into Building C and has just completed renovating the first floor for their classes. Formerly known as the Washington County Adult Learning Center, this non-profit has been providing educational opportunities to adults for more than thirty years. Programs include basic math, reading, and writing, GED preparation, English as a Second Language, computer programming, transition to college and career, and Pre-CNA (certified nursing assistant).

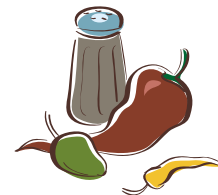


The Exchange is open Monday through Friday, with most classes meeting Tuesday and Thursday. While sharing the parking lot is a new experience for us, please welcome our new neighbors. The Director, Peggy Benz, invites you to stop by to say hello, see the new facility, and learn about their good works.

— Carolyn Hurdis

The Welcome House meal

Our congregation has a special relationship with Welcome House, a sanctuary for people in need of shelter. We are neighbors, and our congregation supports Welcome House in several ways. We volunteer at the house, we participate in the annual "Walk for Shelter," and we provide a meal once a month.



This month, we provide an evening meal for 20 people on November 10. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Community Room or speak with Gerre Alderwick.

The UUCSC Wellness Team

The 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. Members are Sarah Bell, Paulette Chamberas, Lindsey Crowninshield, Iris Donnelly, Val Follett, Julie Hopkins-DeSantis, Mary Morrissey, Lynda Wells and Rev. Betty.

If you would like more information or to schedule a one hour personal "workshop," please contact the Wellness Team Coordinator, Lynda Wells, at 789-5185 or lyndawells@hotmail.com.

Making a house a home: The Hale House in Matunuck

Before 1870, Edward Everett Hale (1822-1909) held the first Unitarian services in Matunuck, gathering with family and friends at Willow Dell, the summer home of Providence manufacturer William Weedon. The two were close friends, having worked together for labor reform, abolition of slavery, education reform, and a number of other causes. The Pettaquamscutt Historical Society (PHS), owner of the house since 2006, invites UUCSC to re-connect with Unitarian history in Matunuck, and to suggest ways that the site can be utilized to promote understanding of shared history and common values.

Hale was one of the best-known clergymen of his



The Hale House opened on October 25, 2010. It will be open three days a week, June to September, in 2011.

day, Chaplain of the U. S. Senate, and a popular author and lecturer. He and his family enjoyed summers in Matunuck from 1873-1910, in the large house that sits on a ridge above Route 1.

For many years, the house looked forlorn and forbidding, weathered and crowded by overgrown shrubs and trees. In recent years, it has undergone a remarkable transformation. The grounds are open and inviting; the house has been painted red, porches have been restored, and the roof has been replaced. Inside, several rooms have been furnished as they would have been in the 1890s, when the Hales and many of their friends enjoyed summers of relaxation, creative work, and respite from the busyness and congestion of Boston.

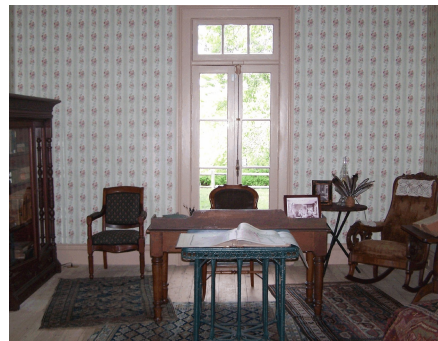
PHS celebrated the official opening of the house to the public as an historic site on October 25, and looks forward to sharing it in a variety of ways beginning next summer.

Not a typical house museum, Hale House feels like home: comfortable, welcoming, casual. There will be no velvet ropes, labels, or scripted tours. Tours will be

conversational, engaging visitors and focusing on the aspects of the house, the site, and Matunuck history that are most interesting to the visitor. There's plenty to choose from: the Hale family were artists, writers,

UUCSC officers, trustees, and committee members will be invited to visit the Hale House as a focus group in the spring. Watch the newsletter for details!

amateur botanists, hikers. They lived "off the grid" before there was a grid; they shared concerns about changes in the landscape as new houses were built, roads were widened and paved, and telephone wires appeared along the road. When typhoid fever claimed many lives in the 1890s, including their own beloved Robert Beverly Hale, they monitored the quality of the water in Wash Pond, the lovely kettle pond directly behind the house, rejoicing when the Health Department declared it safe. (The pond still provides drinking water for homes along its edge.)



Edward Everett Hale's study was recreated based on letters, photographs, and a floor plan Hale drew in 1884.

Rather than talk about how different life was "back then," the goal at Hale House is to emphasize our commonality with those who have been here before us and to celebrate the values we share.

PHS is eager to collaborate with local organizations and groups to provide programs ranging from lectures to nature walks, art and craft lessons, exhibits, field trips, musical performances, and many others. The South Kingstown Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy, and Willow Dell Historical Association are already participating; others are invited to contact PHS.

Hale House has been restored and given to the community as a place for reflection and sharing. Please contact Joan Youngken or the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society with your suggestions for collaboration between UUCSC and Hale House.

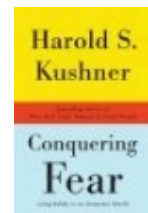
— Joan Youngken

Conquering Fear: Living Boldly in an Uncertain World

Conquering Fear: Living Boldly in an Uncertain World, Harold S. Kushner's 2009 book, will serve as the outline for a seminar sponsored by the Adult Religious Education Committee.

Fear often results in inappropriate actions among individuals, families, and social groups. From mid-January through March of 2011 we will explore on a bi-weekly basis some of the more relevant fears that we have (terrorism, natural disaster, rapid change, societal self destruction, rejection, growing old, death) and how hope, courage, and faith can aid us in dealing with these very real life issues. Stay tuned for more details.

Conquering Fear is available new in paperback from Amazon.com for \$10 and from BetterWorldBooks.com for \$11, and used in paperback or hardcover from AbeBooks.com for \$7 and up. – *Peter Himmel*



Go Green at Coffee Hour!

The Green Sanctuary and Hospitality Committees would like to encourage all our UUCSC members and friends to honor our commitment to "green" values by remembering to think Green and bring a mug or cup each Sunday to Coffee Hour. This will reduce our waste and costs. We have purchased cups and plates made from recycled products through the Alternative Food Co-op. For those who use these supplies, a donation to defray the cost would be greatly appreciated. A box for donations will be near the coffee pot.



The Path to Membership

The last class in this series, about the ins and outs of how our congregation functions, will be held on Sunday, Nov. 21, after the service. Then, for those who choose to join the congregation, a new member ceremony will be included in the service on Dec. 5. The class that had been scheduled for Nov. 7 was combined with the Oct. 24 class so we will all be able to hear the guest speakers after the Nov. 7th service. If you are considering joining the church at this time, please speak with Rev. Betty, Barbara Pagh or Val Follett.

Prayer Circle

We will hold a Prayer Circle on November 4th and on the first Thursday of every month from 6 to 6:40 p.m. in the nursery. Rev. Betty will facilitate this group. Many of us hold in our hearts a person, pet or a situation for which we have deep concern. This prayer circle will offer a safe and sacred space in which to join in healing prayer. We will share times of meditation, music, spoken (and unspoken) prayer, silence, and readings. All are welcome.



Spiritual Deepening: A Continuing Series for Unfolding a Soulful Life

This monthly series for experiencing and deepening our spiritual lives, facilitated by Christine Phoenix-Green and Rev. Betty Kornitzer, invites us to explore new ways of living authentically from the center of our depths, where peace and wisdom reside. We meet in the Sanctuary from 7 to 8:45 p.m. This year we will explore the following forms of spiritual practice: November 17 – Gratitude; December 15 – Solstice/Soulstice - revisiting this participatory ritual; January 19 – The Art of Blessing; February 16 – Holy Listening; March 16 – Lectio Divina; April 20 – Creating Altars; May 18 – Self Reflection. All are welcome, pre-registration is very helpful; e-mail Christine Phoenix-Green at: anamcara131@hotmail.com

Guest at Your Table

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee puts our Seven Principles into direct action by combining advocacy, education and work with local organizations. The UUSC promotes economic rights, advances environmental justice, defends civil liberties and preserves the rights of people in times of humanitarian crisis. My way of fostering the work of the UUSC is to have a Guest At Your Table box in my home from before Thanksgiving until just before Christmas. I will be mindful of the messages contained in the Stories of Hope, I will use Miss Debby's beautiful ritual booklet, and I will fill the box as an expression of my support for the work of the UUSC. – *Gerre Alderwick*

Picking Cotton: Our Memoir of Injustice and Redemption

Read Across the UUCSC, patterned after a program in Rhode Island public libraries, will focus on one book that all members and friends of the congregation can read. The project will culminate in a discussion next May facilitated by Nancy Rose. The book chosen to start this program is *Picking Cotton: Our Memoir of Injustice and Redemption*, by Jennifer Thompson-Cannino, Ronald Cotton, and Erin Torneo, a moving non-fiction story about the power of faith and forgiveness. The Adult Religious Education Committee will have several copies available in the near future. See Charlie Donnelly, Iris Donnelly, Peter Himmel, or Nancy Himmel for more information. – *Iris Donnelly*

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY
27 NORTH ROAD
PEACE DALE, RI 02879

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wakefield, RI
Permit No. 21

“In many of his paintings, the faces have a relaxed, almost deathlike quality that is extraordinary. I once asked about this. Pa said, ‘Andy, I’ll tell you.’ And he drove his point right home to me: ‘When my mother died, I took the train right to Needham. I got there in the late afternoon and they had her laid in her bed upstairs. I went up and sat there with her, with that amazing face that looked like the mother of Europe. As the sun went down, studying that face lying there on that white pillow and that waxy skin’—he was almost whispering —‘it made such a deep impression on me. Andy, if you ever have a chance to be with someone you have loved, don’t hesitate to do it, because that’s the most profound quality, a head in death. It changed everything for me.’

“Twenty years later my father was killed. I arrived from Maine the next afternoon. I didn’t stop to say anything. I took the car up to the Birmingham Meeting and I sat there in that meeting house where he and Newell, my brother Nat’s son, lay. I will never forget that scene and the dry leaves blowing in late October. I remembered what my father said. He was so right. Their faces had become masks of eternity.”

– Andrew Wyeth (1917-2009) on his father, illustrator N.C. Wyeth (1882-1945)
The Wyeth family attended First Unitarian Church of Wilmington, Delaware