

THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 10

NOVEMBER 2011

November Services

November 6

The Sparks Continue to Rise Long After the Darkness Falls:

A Samhain Celebration – *Laura Geoghegan Kellner*

The festival of Samhain marked the beginning of the dark half of the year, when ancient Gaelic peoples throughout western Europe lit bonfires and honored departed souls. This service will honor the memory of the dead and emphasize the connection between nature and the divine.

After today's service, from 11:15 to Noon: What is the UUCSC Wellness Ministry and How Can It Help Me? Explanation, brochures, Q&A.

Daylight Saving Time ends November 5th

November 13

Getting the Message—Seeing Past the Form – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

This service will be punctuated by gospel music. Say what? We're UUs! Think gospel is not your music? Think again. Listen to the message. In our lives, let's not let language or form obstruct the inspiration of the message. It's all about the message.

November 20

"From You I Receive, to You I Give" – The Spirit of Sharing

– *Rev. Betty Kornitzer & Debby Hedison*

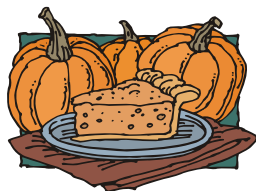
Our Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service

Children and adults are invited to bring seasonal fruits and vegetables, which we will donate to Welcome House. The Guest at Your Table Boxes will be collected at this service.

November 27

Is Virtue the Key to Happiness? – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

This is the first in a series of services on The Necessity of Virtue, based on workshops created by Rev. Dr. Galen Guengerich



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



THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

PUBLISHED ELEVEN TIMES A YEAR

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

DEADLINE: THE 20TH DAY OF EACH MONTH

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

www.uusouthcountyri.org

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

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

Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Minister

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

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

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Michael Galib, Music Director

Kathleen Carland, Office Administrator

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Judi Marcy, Caring Connection Chair

David Floyd, Social Events Committee Chair

Vikki LePree, Gabrielle Torphy, & Melissa Hughes,

Hospitality Committee Chairs

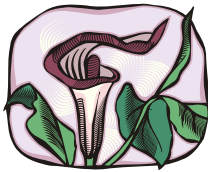
Helene Gersuny, Worship Committee Chair

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 and if you are
having difficulty contacting me) – 932-1515. E-mail (very effective) – bkornitzer@aol.com

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



The Minister's Message

By Rev. Betty Kornitzer

Guest at Your Family Table— Guest in Your Family's Heart

On November 20, we will begin our annual participation in the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) Guest at Your Table program. By celebrating Guest at Your Table, we are helping nurture a spirit of gratitude and “justice, equity, and compassion” in our congregation and in our homes. Guest at Your Table fosters understanding and awareness of the UUSC's human-rights work and gives us all an opportunity to share with those who are less fortunate.

The UUSC's web site says, “Guest at Your Table is an annual tradition in which congregation members take home a box featuring people that UUSC has worked with recently. These people are your ‘guests,’ and you are asked to share your blessings with them. As you give to your guests, you can learn about them by reading the Stories of Hope booklet.”

One really special aspect of the Guest at Your Table program is that it is family-centered. The program is designed to provide a family ritual of giving. RE Director Debby Hedison has created a booklet of Blessings and Prayers that we use once a week at a family meal. This is an opportunity to practice our UU principles at home within the family circle. It is my sincere hope that this year families will decide to participate in this UU ritual. It will not happen without an affirmative decision. So, this is my call to our wonderful families: *carpe diem!* Seize the day, make the decision and experience the love that grows within your collective family's heart. I thank you and the world thanks you for your generosity.

Blessings, Peace and Love,

Betty

What Moves Us?

Rev. Betty will offer two segments of the UUA's “What Moves Us” series of adult religious education workshops created by Rev. Dr. Thandeka, an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister and theologian.

The sessions explore the more spiritual aspects of our faith by examining major figures from our history whose spirituality can help to deepen our journey. Readings and exercises will help us experience similar moments of wonder and transcendence.

- **Saturday, Nov. 5th, 10:30 to Noon – James Luther Adams: Pragmatic Theory of Religious Beliefs**
- **Saturday, Nov. 12th, 10:30 to Noon – Forest Church: Universalist Theology for the 21st Century**

We're looking for used CD players

If you have a working CD player that you do not want or need, would you consider donating it to the UUCSC Wellness Ministry for use in the Peggy Huddleston program? Just bring it into the office. Thanks! – Rev. Betty.

We have a vacancy on the Board

Due to health problems, our beloved member Rick Evans has resigned from the UUCSC Board of Directors, and we need to fill this vacancy. If you or someone you know might be interested in serving the congregation in this capacity, please consider joining us.

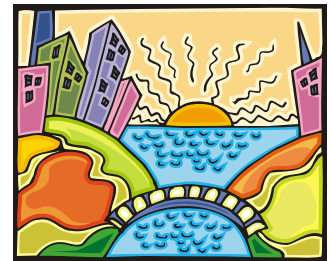
Board members must be members of the congregation and must be willing to attend monthly Board meeting and other meetings. It really does take a village to create the kind of special congregation we have at UUCSC and if you have a calling to serve and participate in the amazing work of our Board, you can contact a member of the nominating committee: Paulette Chamberas, Cindy Berry or Mary Finnegan.

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. The method we use is validated by substantial clinical research done in major hospitals, including the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and Kaiser Permanente in California.

Members of the Wellness Team are Sarah Bell, Paulette Chamberas, Lindsey Crowninshield, Iris Donnelly, Val Follett, Lynda Wells and Rev. Betty.

Our purpose is to reach out to members and friends of UUCSC who would benefit from experiencing this proven process. The process takes about one hour. It is empowering and effective. The Caring Connection can refer people to the Wellness Team, or you can request a session yourself by contacting the Wellness Team Coordinator, Lynda Wells.



Want to learn more?

Come to a brief explanation of the Wellness Ministry in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 6th after the service. Bring your questions. Brochures will be available.

The 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).

Do you need some loving care?

The Lay Pastoral Associates Team helps Rev. Betty Kornitzer care for members and friends of the congregation who are experiencing times of challenge and transition. Rev. Betty will continue offering pastoral care; the lay team supplements her work, thus affording a wider and deeper resource of attention to our growing community. Lay Pastoral Associates provide a caring presence. They listen and help nurture the spirit.

Members of the Lay Pastoral Associates Team (PAT) are Val Follett, Penny Hall, Pat O'Reilly and Lynda Wells. Call Rev. Betty at 284-3321 with your pastoral concerns, and she will make referrals to the PAT when appropriate.

The PAT is distinct from the Caring Connection, chaired by Judi Marcy. The Caring Connection continues to offer support by providing meals or helping those without transportation buy groceries, get to the supermarket, or see a doctor.



A message from Kathy Carland at “mission central”

Since becoming the Church Administrator, not a day goes by that I am not aware of the many ways members and friends support the vision and work of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County. This essential commitment has been maintained for years in so many areas with an extraordinary devotion of time and energy. I am pleased that now I too can begin to contribute to the life of the congregational community.

The office is almost fully operational, with many key functions already in place. In keeping with our vision of the office as “mission central,” most of the communications that formerly were sent to many folks will now come directly to me. The office is now responsible for the following:

- Working hand in hand with the Membership Committee to add to and update the information in the congregation database and directory. Please send new information and corrections or updates to me as soon as possible, as we are preparing to print our new directory very soon.
- Preparing the Order of Worship and the weekly Announcements insert. (The deadline is still Wednesdays at 6 p.m.)
- Sending group e-mails with congregation news, announcements and updates.
- Maintaining and updating the monthly calendar, beginning this month. Please check the calendar link (<http://www.uusouthcountyri.org/calendar.html>) any time during the month for timely updates and changes.

You may reach me by telephone at 783-4170 or by e-mail at uucscri@yahoo.com. My hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Once again, I appreciate the warm welcome and support on every level of this transition.

– Kathy Carland, Church Administrator

It's time to welcome a Guest at Your Table!

On November 20, we'll open our Guest at Your Table program with an intergenerational worship. When we bring home our Guest at Your Table boxes and place them prominently where we regularly gather, our families and friends have the chance to learn about real people who are succeeding in their struggles for justice with UUSC.

Stories of Hope will help children, youth, and adults learn more about how UUSC partners with human-rights leaders in the United States and around the world to advance our common goals for justice. The stories introduce youth and young-adult leaders such as Dalia Ziada, who started speaking out by winning an essay contest and now helps others in Egypt find their

voice and advocate for their rights. One story highlights Patrick Lafontant, who survived on his own in Haiti but then thrived when he found a purpose helping others through art therapy. His leadership grew with a new purpose after the earthquake and by working with UUSC partner the Association for the Promotion of Integral Family Healthcare.



Consider making it part of a weekly practice, perhaps while gathered at the dinner table, to read through one of the stories and discuss its meaning and how we each can help. When we share our blessings with our “guests,” we ensure that UUSC and people like Dalia and Patrick can continue their important work.

And, thanks to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, N.Y., gifts of \$100 or more are eligible to be matched, dollar for dollar, doubling the impact of your support!

If you miss picking up your Guest at Your Table donation box or envelope, and Stories of Hope book, you can do so by talking with Gerre Alderwick.



MONEY MATTERS

The monthly column from the Finance Committee

Two items of interest this month . . .

♣ We have now rented all four small offices that face the pond. Thanks go out to David Floyd, who got the ball rolling by renting the first space; Chris DePaola, who enthusiastically acted as our “agent;” Nancy Dean, who rented a room and has been making improvements that were quite necessary; and Tracy Hart, who not only rented for herself but brought our final renter, Susan Mandel, to the last available small office. The band of renters have purchased their own vacuum and are beautifying the space . . . for which we are all grateful!

The larger office has yet to find a person or a group who will rent it. If you want to know more, please contact Jean Burke or Chris DePaola. (Thanks also to Jean who has been posting the space on Craigslist.)

♣ Tree of Life brochures are being printed that will have all the pertinent information for anyone who wants to have a leaf engraved. Until they are available, here is what you need to know:

- Each leaf engraving is a minimum of a \$250 donation.
- Three lines may be engraved (no more than 24 characters per line).
- Contact Aline Couture if you are interested.

We are looking into having “Tree of Life” printed above the installation, which we think will only enhance the appearance.

Respectfully submitted,
Aline Couture, Finance Chair

A Gentle Suggestion for the Length of Joys and Concerns

One of the most sacred and important times in our worship is the sharing of Joys and Concerns. It is how we can all touch that place where we are ultimately connected. It is a time when we are reminded of the extra-ordinary events that touch us all at one time or another.

However, we are also bound by the time limits of our service, and we all must be respectful of how much time we have to share these moments in our lives.

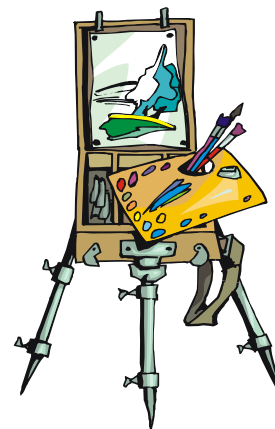
Please try to use just a sentence or two to share the joys and concerns that have touched you. Tell us your name, and state simply what great joy or deep concern has touched you. These events are universal to us all, so we will not need great detail in order to understand that which has affected you.

Thank you for your consideration. — The Worship Committee

A tribute to artist Stephanie C. Parker

The late Stephanie Charlotte Parker was an award-winning artist, esteemed art director and graphic artist. Although she was not a member of UUCSC, her independent spirit, passion for free thinking, love of nature, and desire for peace reflected UU values.

Her paintings have been widely exhibited in New England and New York, and her work is displayed at the Westin Hotel in Providence, Fidelity Mutual Investments in Smithfield, and the Guatemalan Consulate in Manhattan, as well as in many private collections. She took part in the Corporate Lending Program at the deCordova Museum in Lincoln, Mass. Stephanie visited Mexico and Central America often to study Mayan and Zapotec ruins for her dramatic portrayals of that area.



Stephanie's father, Richard Parker, has graciously offered to donate some of Stephanie's beautiful pastels to UUCSC to be sold to support the work of the church. Stephanie's work will be on exhibit on Saturday, November 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

We hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please contact either Tracy Hart or Iris Donnelly, a dear friend of Stephanie's.

— Tracy Hart



Religious Education News and Events

By Debby Hedison, Director of Religious Education

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

Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are charming gardeners who make our souls blossom. – Marcel Proust

During this month of Thanksgiving, I'd like to share with you a few church-related things I am most grateful for:

- * Babies, babies and more babies!
- * Teenagers who are amazing with all those babies . . . and all the youth, for that matter!
- * Toilets that actually work.
- * Folks who fix the toilets when they don't work.
- * An office administrator who is worth her weight in gold.
- * Hard-working volunteers in all areas of our community life.
- * Colleagues I can't hold a candle (or a flaming chalice) to.
- * Seeing children enjoy a swing set after Sunday school.
- * Enjoying the swing set myself when no one's looking.
- * Discovering Play Doh in my hair three hours after church has ended.
- * Children who ask me questions I can't answer and tell me things I can't repeat!
- * Learning (in front of the entire congregation) that spiders are actually not insects but arachnids.
- * The Wall!!!!
- * Good acoustics in the sanctuary.
- * All the magical fairies that do things most don't see.
- * The folks who prove to us musically that the acoustics are good.
- * Every child, young and old, here at the UUCSC.
- * The hidden stash of candy in my messy office.
- * Parents who swap a warm bed on Sunday morning for a trip to church for Sunday School.
- * All the famous UUs who visited us during September and October.

Blessed Be for all we have to be thankful for!

– Debby May

Important RE Notes

Teaching Opportunities:

During Session 3 (Jan. 1- Feb. 26) we need two teachers in the 3rd to 5th grade classroom.

During Session 4 (March 4 - April 29) we need two teachers in K to 2nd grade classroom, one teacher in the 3rd to 5th grade classroom, and one teacher in the 6th to 8th grade classroom.

During Session 5 (May 6 - June 10) we need two teachers in K to 2nd grade classroom.

On November 13th, the Sunday service will feature gospel music. Families can decide if they want their children to attend to hear the music, or join in the classes downstairs.

“Pipe Dreams”

Friday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Free and open to the public . . . bring your friends!

The newest, most topical, and perhaps most controversial film in our series, “Pipe Dreams” is a new 40-minute documentary about the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline that would carry crude oil from the Tar Sands of Canada through America’s heartland to refineries on the Gulf Coast of Texas. Academy Award- and Emmy-nominated director Leslie Iwerks explores the social, political, and environmental impacts of the proposed pipeline through interviews with landowners, politicians, scientists and engineers, and activists.



Hidden beneath the boreal forests of Alberta, Canada’s Tar Sands contain more oil than any other place on earth besides Saudi Arabia; in addition, extracting and refining this oil generates two to four times the carbon emissions of the equivalent process for conventional oil. Canadian energy company TransCanada says its pipeline would create jobs and enhance America’s energy independence; James Hansen calls it “essentially game over” for the climate, and the Canadian environmental group Environmental Defense calls the proposed pipeline “the most destructive project on Earth.” Hear all sides of the argument and get the facts. Narrated by Daryl Hannah.

A discussion will follow the film. Sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Project. - Lisa Petrie

Dining for Dollar\$ a huge success!

The recent Dining for Dollars auction proved to be a successful fundraiser for our congregation. We received bids totaling \$4,295!



Special thanks to the folks who volunteered their time, talent and resources to host the eight fantastic events.

Lisa McHenry held the winning raffle ticket. She now has two seats at the event of her choice.

If you didn’t win a spot at one of these events, don’t fret— we will be holding our spring auction in March. If you’d like to host an event to take place during the more hospitable times of the year, spring and summer, please contact me. Your efforts will be greatly appreciated! - Nancy Rose

Hymnal donations wanted

Have you noticed lately that we’re short of hymnals ?

We could use your help in solving this problem. If you’d like to buy a hymnal to donate to the congregation, or keep as your own, it will have a dedication of your choice ("In Memory of," "In Honor of," or "Gift of") inside the front cover.

The dark blue hard-cover book costs \$30 and the soft-cover turquoise book is \$20. Please sign up with Charlotte MacLean or Val Follett on Sunday mornings, or fill out the form on the Visitor Table in the foyer.

Thanks for your generosity. - Val Follett

Can you help with hospitality?

This year Gabrielle Torphy, Melissa Hughes and Vikki LePree will coordinate our coffee hour. We look forward to contacting you and hope that many of you will be willing to host one Sunday this year.

Hearing from members before we call or e-mail you is always a great help. Feel free to call or e-mail any of us to serve as host.

Many thanks to all of you who have already provided our congregants with your generous after-service beverages and treats!



If you volunteer, we will schedule a Sunday that you find convenient. We always e-mail a letter that outlines coffee hour guidelines, and specific step-by-step instructions are posted in the church kitchen next to the stove.

Additionally, if you are willing to host a second time or wouldn't mind helping out in an emergency, please let us know. We have a group of helpers who are able to do this and would love to know if there are more of you. Cheers!

- Vikki LePree, Gabrielle Torphy & Melissa Hughes

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.

Music at Lily Pads presents . . .

Ellis Paul
with Peyton Tochtermann
Saturday, November 5th

We are proud to present the great Ellis Paul.

Ellis Paul is one of the leading voices of the American singer-songwriter world. He was a principal leader in the wave of singer-songwriters that emerged from the Boston folk scene and helped revitalize the national acoustic circuit with an urban, literate, folk-pop style. He has been among the singer-songwriter circuit's most popular and dependable headliners, with fiercely loyal fans all over the globe.

Ellis' charismatic, personally authentic performance style has influenced a generation of artists. As one of the most pop-friendly of today's singer-songwriters, he has successfully bridged the gulf between the modern folk sound and the populist traditions of Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger.

USA Today's feature on Ellis was headlined "Best Bet for Stardom." His music has been featured in movies and TV shows, including two Farrelly brothers movies. "The World Ain't Slowin' Down" was the title track in Jim Carrey's "Me Myself and Irene," and "Sweet Mistakes" was featured in "Shallow Hal," starring Jack Black. His song "If You Break Down" was used in the final scene of the last episode of NBC's "Ed."



Ellis's special guest will be fellow singer-songwriter Peyton Tochtermann.

"Peyton Tochtermann continues to leave audiences in awe . . . His recent concert at the Paramount Theater was the latest example of [his] stellar musicianship and songwriting skills . . . Between sold out shows of Ryan Adams and Peter Rowan, Tony Rice & David Bromberg & the Angel Band, Peyton Tochtermann proved that he is an artist of equal standards. He is not only bound for glory, but deserving of it!" – Mary Beth Aungier, The Paramount Theater, Charlottesville Virginia

Don't miss the chance to see Ellis Paul and Peyton Tochtermann perform in our very own sanctuary. Tickets are on sale now at Sweet Cakes, the Alternative Food Co-op and Looney Tunes II, and online at Brown Paper Tickets.

Coming in December!

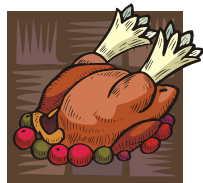
Friday, December 2 – Hoots & Hellmouth (from Philadelphia) and South County's own Fly Around (featuring Sandol Astrausky and Rory McLeod)

Saturday, December 3 (morning show) – A Concert for Kids 2 to 8 with Debbie and Friends!

For more information, go to www.musicatlilypads.org. – David Floyd

An invitation to Thanksgiving dinner

Vikki LePree and her family would like to extend an invitation to any single members or couples who would like to join us for Thanksgiving dinner. We plan to serve a traditional meal, buffet style. Bring a favorite side dish if you like. Call Vikki to RSVP; we may be able to help you with transportation if necessary.



Your comments?

The Worship Committee encourages all to take note of the Comment Box located on the little table to the left of the sanctuary entrance. Your contributions are welcome, but only signed comments will receive our attention.

Board forms ad hoc committee to explore sending a South County delegation to UUA "Justice Assembly"

At its meeting on October 20, the UUCSC Board of Directors voted unanimously to establish an ad hoc committee to explore sending several members, including at least two youth, to the historic UUA "Justice Assembly" in Phoenix next year. The committee will report back to the board regularly on its progress.

There were powerful reasons supporting this effort. First, the UUA had changed its position on the location of the 2012 General Assembly during heated discussions at the 2010 General Assembly. A decision had been made to cancel the Phoenix GA as "financial punishment" in response to Arizona's passage of anti-immigrant legislation. But UUA President Rev. Peter Morales, working closely with Arizona UUs and their community allies, persuaded delegates to convene a "Justice Assembly" in Phoenix instead.

Second, the 2012 Phoenix General Assembly will have a somewhat different format while maintaining many of the ordinary GA functions. A special committee is planning that different format this year. (To follow this process, go

to <http://www.uua.org/ga/2012/-index.shtml>.)



Third, the Board felt that it needed to increase its attention to the theology and practice of Unitarian Universalism in general; participation in the democratic processes that it represents is useful in itself.

Presently, given our financial structure and needs, UUCSC's budget has no resources available for GA attendance. One of the functions of the new committee will be to research how we may identify and develop additional funding sources to support this new level of activity. The discussion also emphasized that inclusion of a minimum of two youth was

important. Delegates at the 2011 GA reinforced the importance of youth participants by recalling the ways in which the youth rallied the assembly in particularly stimulating and interesting ways. Our youth are invited to join this committee.

The ad hoc committee on the 2012 Justice Assembly attendance will begin its work on Tuesday, November 16 at 7 p.m. Members who are interested in serving on the committee are asked to call or e-mail John Glasheen. The work must be completed by late February or early March in order to take advantage of the discounted prices that come with early registration for GA.

The 2014 General Assembly will be held in Providence. The work of this committee will concurrently better prepare the congregation for participation in the Providence meeting. It is noted, for example, that local congregations often provide housing for out-of-state delegates as a means of reducing their costs while also providing revenues to the local congregation. Further, the "witness" emphasis of 2012 may well impact the Providence meeting as well.

— John Glasheen

Welcome House

On the second Wednesday of each month, UUCSC is responsible for the evening meal at Welcome House, the homeless shelter in Peace Dale. This month, the date is November 9. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up on the sheet in the Community Room. Should you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact Gerre Alderwick.



The Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet at noon on November 28 at church. The book selection to be discussed, available in Rhode Island libraries, is *The Woman Behind the New Deal*, a biography of Frances Perkins, who served as Secretary of Labor under FDR and was the first woman cabinet member. All are welcome. For further information, call Helene Gersuny.

What has your Committee on Ministry been up to?

The mission of the members of the Committee on Ministry (CoM) is to do our very best to listen deeply to your joys, ideas and concerns about our shared ministry.

What Have We Been Hearing? Often we must keep what we hear confidential, and we take that duty extraordinarily seriously—it is a sacred trust. But at other times, members and friends share thoughts that they are very happy to communicate to the entire Community. We have heard suggestions to make worship a more contemplative experience. As a result, Betty begins each service with a period of meditation. The sermon now precedes “Joys and Concerns.” And a lot of effort has been made to dedicate “Joys and Concerns” to personal, not political, messages.

Some shared that they would like more emphasis on our UU history and great spiritual leaders. Betty offered a session on UU history after the service on October 16th, and will speak more on our spectacular history during sermons this year. As we all know so well, Betty shared with the CoM her concern about achieving a better balance between her Ministry to us and time with her family. We

held several cottage meetings to talk about the issues and the options, culminating in a congregational discussion at our annual meeting. As a result, the congregation approved having Betty reduce her time to 75%, and hiring an administrator. Betty began her 75% time on July 1, and Kathy Carland began serving as our part time administrator at the end of August.

What Can You Do? Please keep sharing with us. We so welcome hearing what brings you joy and seems to be working, what you would like to see changed, and what concerns you about any aspects of our shared ministry: Rev. Betty's ministry to our congregation and the many ways each of us can and should minister to each other. Right now, we especially need to hear how the reduction in Betty's time is affecting our shared ministry. Please talk with us.

How Can You Reach Us? We welcome hearing from you in person, over the phone or by e-mail. Please contact Rev. Betty Kornitzer or one of the committee members: Linda Whyte Burrell, Lindsay Crowninshield, or Jean E. Burke.

When the weather is frightful . . .

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



If the service is cancelled, enjoy a “virtual worship service.”

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



Fragrance-free Sundays, please . . .

Several Congregants experience serious allergic reactions to fragrances worn by others at our Sunday services. To insure that everyone is comfortable during the service, we request that you consider refraining from wearing fragrance to worship services. Thank you for your consideration.

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

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Over the river, and through the wood
Trot fast, my dapple-gray!
Spring over the ground like a hunting-hound,
For this is Thanksgiving Day.

— *Lydia Maria Francis Child*

Lydia Child (1802-1880), novelist, abolitionist, cookbook author and Unitarian, was a native of Medford, Massachusetts. A founder of the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association, her *Appeal in Favor of That Class of Americans Called Africans* (1833) persuaded William Ellery Channing and Charles Sumner to oppose slavery.

“Over the River . . .” recalls Child’s own trip to see her grandfather, who lived near the Mystic River in Medford. His house, much larger than it was in the early 1800s, still stands at 114 South Street.