

A watercolor illustration featuring a central globe with blue oceans and green continents. A green plant with two leaves grows from the top of the globe. The globe is surrounded by various colorful, abstract watercolor shapes in shades of pink, red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. The entire illustration is framed by a thin black border.

CREATIVITY

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
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To be a radically inclusive religious community that feeds the human spirit and heals the world



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About the Cover

A painting celebrating Earth Day,
which is April 22.

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FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM



Creativity is simply our ability to dream things up and make them happen.
~ Peggy Taylor

*a*men. Creativity is about dreaming and imagination. It's about envisioning new possibilities. To be a people of creation is indeed to dream the "not yet" through imagination, artistry and self-expression.

What about that other part, however? "Creativity is simply our ability to...make them happen." That's the part that gets short shrift. Dream the "not yet" up. Check! Make it happen? Run away! Yes, creation requires the courage to live into the "not yet."

To lean into creativity, it's good to remember January's theme of daring. Daring is the place where courage and vulnerability meet up. Creativity is also a meeting place. It is the diner where imagination and daring have breakfast. Courage and vulnerability are necessary ingredients.

Spiritual tools like creativity often come alive for us at "a place of meeting." That's why this month we want to focus on co-creation and collaboration. Indeed, where did we get that silly idea that artists and inventors are isolated, independent geniuses?! If there ever was a myth, that is definitely one.

In his book *Where Good Ideas Come From*, Steven Johnson proves it. He begins his natural history of innovation with Charles Darwin standing and staring at the diversity of life in an Indian Ocean coral reef. He wonders how one small reef could create so much diversity in otherwise nutrient-poor waters. Almost 200 years later in his research on cities, Geoffrey West discovered that as a city gets bigger, it generates ideas, creativity and innovation at faster rates. How could one big place, filled with noise and grime and hardship, create so much creativity?

Simply put, there are no creators without companions. And when it comes to creativity, our environments matter profoundly. They can squelch our creativity or breed it effortlessly.

At UCS we imagine becoming the coral reef of spiritual communities. The place where spiritual life, in its many forms, meets and flourishes. Our mission and strategic plan invite and challenge UCS to create a collaborative community where the "not yet" can greet the light of day.

April brings UCS a few steps closer. We take you deeper into the steps before us: Beginning a conversation on our name's reflection on our mission. Attending the workshop on This One, Precious Life on April 9th. Voting on Black Lives Matter on April 10th. Tutoring on Saturday in Irvington. An invitation on April 17th to shift to Clean Energy from Green Earth Ministry. Making space to welcome and host our partner church this summer.

Most long-awaited perhaps is the end of a search process for our Minister of Worship and Outreach. For two years, UCS has been moving toward a collaborative model of governance led by a three-person Leadership Team, composed of our two Ministers and our Executive Director. Our search committee finished interviewing candidates in March and will announce their candidate in April.

Yes, creativity requires the courage to live into "not yet." Together we are living into our courage and our creative spirit.

CREATIVE CHANGE

Give the Earth a Gift!

April 22 is Earth Day, and our Green Earth Ministry is inviting everyone to observe the occasion by choosing a green energy company for home electric service. On Sunday, April 17, GEM will launch a campaign to inform UCS members about Ethical Electric and other green energy options. In New Jersey our place of residence determines whether we will have our power delivered by JCP&L or by PSE&G. By default, these companies are also the power supply sources. However, we can choose to use another supplier, and the choice really matters.

Both delivery companies depend primarily on fossil fuels, with PSE&G using only 14% renewable sources and JCP&L only 3%. For a little more money each month you can have 100% renewable electricity. Several suppliers use



renewable sources. You can find the list at EPA.gov/greenenergy. Our Green Earth Ministry particularly recommends Ethical Electric because in addition to offering 100% renewable energy, the company is organized as a b-corporation. As such it is legally committed to benefitting society. More information is available at ethicalelectric.com.

Look for members of the GEM steering committee on April 17. They will be sharing fliers and answering questions in the lobby. Then celebrate Earth Day by making the switch!

Are voting rights and money in politics important issues?

If you think so, you are in good company. Over 200 organizations, including the Unitarian Universalist Association, have joined together to create Democracy Awakening. Two excerpts from the website democracyawakening.org explain its mission:

"We're a broad coalition of organizations representing the labor, peace, environmental, student, racial justice, civil rights and money in politics reform movements. We share a firm belief that we will not win on the full range of policy issues we all care about until we combat attacks on voting rights and the integrity of the vote by big money."

"Today, we're fighting for change on many fronts... But an array of barriers are keeping regular Americans shut out of the political process, from restrictive voting laws suppressing the voting rights of people of color, seniors, students, and low-income Americans, to a campaign finance landscape that allows big money to increasingly shape elections and the policy-making process."

In April Democracy Awakening will converge upon Washington, D.C., for a Rally for Democracy (April 17) and an array of other actions (April 16 - 18) to demand a democracy that works for all of us. For more information, see democracyawakening.org. If you would like to carpool to the April 16 Rally for Democracy, contact Meg Kimberland at mhk1731@yahoo.com.



Photo by Margaret Bourke-White titled [Kentucky Flood](#), February 1937

FAITH FORMATION

By Laura Beth Brown

7 It's been almost 20 years since I discovered *The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity*

by Julia Cameron. Based on Alcoholics Anonymous 12-step program--part of Cameron's life path--the book outlines a 12-week course for "recovering" our inner artist child. In addition to the weekly tasks based on the themes such as recovering a sense of safety, possibility, abundance, etc., there are two basic tools utilized for the entire course: Morning Pages and the Artist Date.

With Morning Pages, I awake a half-hour earlier than usual and write stream-of-consciousness for that time--first thing, before I even got out of bed. The idea is that when we clear our heads of the clutter, nuggets of clarity, truth and creativity will be revealed. I kept this practice consistent for most of 10 years, and indeed some of my best ideas and revelations came through unexpectedly on those pages in the wee hours of the morning.

The Artist Date felt almost indulgent at first. The assignment is to take yourself (alone) on a play date to feed your creative consciousness each week. I found myself in a one-shot pottery class, hiking, going to a musical, salsa dancing...the list goes on. I realized soon enough how important it is that my creative self be listened to and pampered. I could more easily receive insights, inspiration and guidance



when I took the time to nurture myself in this way.

The Artist's Way also promotes 10 Basic Principles. The one that has stuck with me: "Our creative dreams and yearnings come from a divine source. As we move toward our dreams, we move toward our divinity."

When I sit down to my harmonium to play and sing, I have those moments of connection--that feeling of being the conduit to something greater than myself. I consider those deeply sacred moments...it is not just me playing, singing, creating.

Ultimately, we do not have to be artists to create. We are creations and therefore, innately creative. How will you feed that creative self this month?

This month in UU history

In honor of the release of the release of Batman vs Superman: Dawn of Justice we look at lifelong UU Christopher Reeve, the original Superman.

After staring in Superman, he was thrown from a horse and became a quadriplegic. He lobbied for people with spinal-cord injuries and for human embryonic stem cell research, founding the Christopher Reeve Foundation and the Reeve-Irvine Research Center.



***Vote to take a
stand on April 10***

Statement: We Affirm that Black Lives Matter

*A reflection to the congregation of youth
speaking about race.*

by Hikaru Hayakawa

Racism is undoubtedly one of America's greatest problems; its voice and impact stretches from its roots in the Age of Discovery to current day America. More than the majority of American History has centered on race relations, including the slave trade, the Civil War, Imperialism, World War II, Japanese Internment, and the Civil Rights Movement.

Race and culture have always played a part in everybody's lives. I barely had any experience with having to identify race until I was in 2nd Grade. We took a survey for Physical Education, and the survey asked my race . . . The races that they had were Black, White, Native American/Pacific, and Asian. So I went home and asked my parents the same question, they said I was multiracial. I went back the next day and found that there was no multiracial option, and so the teacher printed out the survey. Knowing how my handwriting looked, I was pretty sure that nobody could read it, but filling out a survey is filling out a survey!

Race itself has not been as obvious to me, most people are expected to be a certain group and fit into that group. This stereotype is different for me because most people generally think that I am from somewhere they do not know about, or some realize that I am multiracial. I feel as if I experience a different type of racism, one that is not racist on purpose. People often bond because of similarities and in society in general, it seems that most people have friends who are usually a similar race to them or have similar interests. I notice racism is sometimes unconscious, that people sometimes do not realize the impact of their comments which could be interpreted as offensive. This applies to all people. Identity has always allowed people to bond with each other, but for me it has carry a sense of alienation. During a Roots Project meeting, youths were divided into groups based on People of Color and White. I felt uncomfortable about it because I felt different, and not used to being placed in a category. Although I did feel uncomfortable, I did realize that in some ways it did also help people see how people who were classified in these groups were affected.

Although this unconscious racism is deeply layered, I do see a way around it.



Photo by, Claire Anderson on the UMass Amherst Campus

An example is my family. My parents, and our extended family, have taught me how many different people with origins in several countries in Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Caribbean, and Europe can co-exist in one family. Another example is our own Unitarian Church in Summit, united by our values and learning about different cultures and religions. We exemplify a diversity that is not prevalent in other societies, teaching our diverse peoples about these situations involving race and how they are prevalent in society.

When I went to my sleep-away camp for the first time in 6th Grade, I freaked out. I thought I wouldn't be accepted. I was worried because of the length of the time I would stay. My parents wanted me to stay for three whole weeks, and I was so nervous, although now I tell my parents I want to stay double that time! Camp really taught me a lot about people, and living with my cabin mates and camp family taught me that it doesn't matter what you like, what you look like, what you care about, it only matters about how you accept others and embrace their differences. Some campers are from places like France, Spain, Mexico, Japan, Venezuela, India,

Russia, and England and almost all the counselors are from Australia, Scotland, England, New Zealand, Ireland, Greece, Colombia, and other countries too! I really felt that living with them taught me that we are all connected.

We have to, as a whole, address people as one. Companies like Apple or Samsung, would not have been so successful had they not produce products for all people: videos and photos for the artists; apps and games like FIFA to the sport-goers; streaming movies for the movie-goers, and it goes on and on. What I learned at camp revolutionized my ideas.

I have come to realize that while the world is prejudiced, yet at the same time functions like a kind and diverse gigantic family, just like our Unitarian Church or the campers and counselors at camp that I see every summer!

I believe that in order to break the chain of oppression, called racism, people must accept one another, while always remembering who they are, so we can continue our own journey with diversity that includes all, while preserving culture and history.

from the board

*The UCSummit Board formally invites you to the Special Congregational meeting
Sunday, April 10 at 12:30*

We will review, explain and vote on the statement of Taking a Stand of Black Lives Matter

Statement: We Affirm that Black Lives Matter

Inspired by our commitment to "Standing on the Side of Love," we feel called to take a stand about the stain of racism in America.

A terrible series of violent deaths of young Black men at the hands of police officers has shocked us and highlighted inherent disparities in law enforcement's treatment of White people and Black people. Somewhat less visibly, under our criminal justice system, Black Americans, both men and women, are arrested with greater frequency for even minor infractions, convicted more often and receive more extreme sentences for the same crimes compared to White Americans. The high rate of incarceration for young Black men has had devastating impacts on loss of income, unemployment rates, homelessness and the continuing destruction of the fabric of their families and communities. We see systemic racism at work in both dramatic ways (killings in Charleston and the bombing of Black churches) and more subtle ones (discrimination in housing and banking, leading to a profound loss of hope within the Black community.

**THEREFORE, AS A CONGREGATION, WE ARE CALLED TO BEAR WITNESS AND STAND AS ALLIES
WITH BLACK AMERICANS IN THEIR STRUGGLES FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND SECURITY.**

WE AFFIRM THAT BLACK LIVES MATTER.

to read the full statement click [Here](#), to learn more about BLM click [Here](#).

INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON BLM ON APRIL 3, SEE PAGE 16 FOR MORE DETAILS

In other Board News

The UCS Board members are elected by the congregation at our annual meeting (this year on June 5.) As your representatives, the Board is responsible for keeping UCS in line with it's mission and ensuring it's financial health. Board meetings are open to all and take place on the third Monday of the month. Board minutes are available in our main stairwell on the way to coffee hour, but highlights of current board issues and activities will be posted here for you as well following the monthly meetings.

The Board has been focusing on our Annex, 309 Springfield since our tenant moved out at the end of January. We have engaged a realtor, Alice Levine (wife of UCS member Wendy Roome) to market the building to new tenants. Our success in obtaining some rental income will be a major factor in determining the time frame for proceeding with our expansion plans.

As a result of sentiments expressed by many in the congregation, the Board organized a discussion after both services on April 3 and a congregational vote held on April 10 regarding 'Black Lives Matter.'

In addition, The Board is extremely grateful to the entire Ministerial Search Committee (Chair, Kris Gordon and members Christopher Burtt, Carol Conger Miller, Nancy Griffeth, Helen Kaar and Michael Millspaugh) for their tireless efforts thus far in attracting and interviewing candidates for our new Minister of Worship position. We are very excited for the announcement of the final candidate to be made in April. We remain indebted to Rev. Terry Sweetser for his two years as our interim minister and we invite you to attend a farewell celebration for Terry on Saturday, June 4, at 4:30 pm. More details to follow.

explore and connect



March was a pretty big month for UCSummit, and inspite of our busy schedules, we literally grew! Our congregation gained 12 more members. Michael Barrasso, Laura Buoncuore, Patti Whelan and Andrew Whelan-Small, Jean Paul and Lori Guiard, Kate Facto, Beverlee Kaminetzky, Daniel and Laura (Lauri) Palomaki, Peggy Hannis and Karen Heffernan all signed the book on March 20. Welcome to the Congregation!



Save the Dates

Don't miss these important dates as well:

April 3: Informational Meeting

May 15: Listen to the ministerial candidate and May 22 Vote!

Newsletter submissions should be sent no later than the 15th of the month to newsletter@ucsummit.org



This is it. Your one, precious life.

How are you spending it and investing in it?
How will your life impact those who come after you?

Explore these questions in a workshop led by Rev. Emilie Boggis and begin creating a meaningful life today that leaves a lasting legacy for tomorrow.

Saturday, April 9th, 10 am - 3 pm
The Sanctuary at The Unitarian Church in Summit
\$25 with lunch



Register by April 1
Contact emilie@ucsummit.org



Just Listen

by Bryan Stevenson

Listen to faith leaders share their perspectives and engage in small group discussions. All are welcome to UCSummit.

Tuesdays at 7p.m. April 5, 12, and 19

Get Ready to vote!

Important dates to votes coming up:

April 10 Taking a Stand

May 22 Calling the New Minister

June 4 Farewell to Terry Party

June 5 Annual Meeting

In order to vote you must have signed the book and have a pledge of financial commitment on file, 60 days prior to the meeting. Not sure if you are a member contact Kimberly Rossiter, at Kimberly@ucsummit.org.



Debby Irving is Rescheduled!

She will be at Congregation Beth Hatikvah in Summit on Wed. May 11 at 7:30 to talk about her new book *Waking up White*

ARTS/BOOKS/EDUCATIONAL

World Religions:

We will continue discussing the book *Heirs to Forgotten Kingdoms: Journeys into the Disappearing Religions of the Middle East*, by Gerard Russell. Russell served as a diplomat for 15 years with the British Foreign Office and the United Nations. On April 5 Liz O'Byrne will lead the discussion on Zoroastrians and the Druze (chapters 3 & 4).






On April 19 we will consider Samaritans and Copts (chapters 5 & 6). The final chapter is on the Kalasha. Some of these religions are older than Christianity and Islam. They are relatively small groups which have historically co-existed with Islam due to geographic isolation and a measure of toleration shown to them. However, with the emergence of Islamist movements, adherents are increasingly persecuted. The genocidal action against the Yazidis in northern Iraq, for example, has been widely publicized. In fact, our congregation took two plate collections to aid Yazidi women and girls and offered an educational program about their plight. Please join us in exploring these little-known religious groups.

For more information contact Lessie Culmer-Nier (973-593-0114 or lculmern@drew.edu)

Humanist Group:

We will meet April 17 at 12:45

Come join the humanist pot-luck lunch discussion group for good conversation, food, and fellowship. All who are interested in taking part are welcome to these informal gatherings. Whether you consider yourself humanist, HUUMANIST, agnostic, atheist, religious naturalist, or are just curious about "this-worldly" perspectives, please join us on April 17 after second service. We will spend some time at this meeting reviewing the UU Humanist Freethinker Friendly Program, announced at last year's General Assembly. For further information please contact Lorraine Franz at UULORRAINE@GMAIL.COM.

CROSSING ROADS

Understanding and Appreciating World Religions

Wednesday evenings in April
7:30-9:00 p.m.

Central Presbyterian Church
70 Maple Street, Summit, New Jersey

Free and open to the public

April 6: **Judaism** with Rabbi Avi Friedman.
Rabbi at Congregation Ohr Shalom—SJCC in Summit

April 13: **Islam** with Dr. Ali Chaudry
President and co-founder of the Islamic Society of Basking Ridge
First Pakistani-born Mayor elected in the US (Bernards Township)
Lecturer on Islam at Rutgers and New Jersey State Police Academy

April 20: **Hinduism** with Gadadhara Pandit Dasa
Interfaith Chaplain at Union Theological Seminary, New York
First Hindu Chaplain at Columbia University and NYU
Author of the book *Urban Monk*, which will be on sale

April 27: **Buddhism** with TBA

April 3

Eric Wyrick

Mariko Wyrick, Mitchell Vines

violin, cello, piano

Eric Wyrick, concertmaster of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and Artistic Coordinator of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, joins cellist Mariko Wyrick and pianist and Afternoon Music's artistic director, Mitchell Vines, in a rich and varied program of trios and duos.




Afternoon Music

3 Sundays at 4

The Unitarian Church in Summit – A Jewel of a Hall
4 Waldron Ave., Summit, NJ 07901 (Corner Waldron & Springfield)

Artists' reception after each performance



Tickets

\$25; \$20, senior; students free
subscriptions: \$65; senior, \$50

Information

908-273-2899

www.ucsummit.org



NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

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CREATIVITY IN GENEROSITY

[Our congregation recently completed an initiative to help MADRE and its partners at the Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq (OWFI) "open the doors to a brand new shelter and rape crisis center in Dohuk, Kurdistan—the only one of its kind in the region." It is both housing and healing women and children who have been victims of forced sexual slavery at the hands of ISIS.]

We are proud to report that our congregation raised \$18,025.00 to help fund this shelter. The fact that the Unitarian Church in Summit raised such a large amount in the course of only two plate collections is truly extraordinary. Set forth below is an open letter of thanks that our congregation received from MADRE and OWFI.]



For Iraqi Girls Fleeing ISIS, You Opened the Doors to Healing

To Our Friends and Generous Supporters at the Unitarian Church in Summit,

I can't thank you and the rest of the congregation enough. Young women and girls who have escaped sexual slavery by ISIS have found safe haven and security, thanks to you. That's because your support helped MADRE and our partners at the Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq (OWFI) open the doors to a brand new shelter and rape crisis center in Dohuk, Kurdistan—the only one of its kind in the region.

The Solution You Make Possible

Women and girls captured by ISIS have endured the unimaginable: abducted from their families, sold at market, forced into sexual slavery. The lucky ones have managed to escape, but they have a long road ahead to healing.

Recently, Yanar Mohammed, an Iraqi women's rights activist and leader of OWFI, met with a group of five of these women, mostly under the age of 20, who have escaped ISIS captivity. "The young women are deeply traumatized," Yanar reported. "Many are not willing to speak. It was impossible for some to even look me in the eye. They will need significant time and support to begin to recover and rebuild."

But now, they have a safe space to heal. Currently, at the center you made possible, 30 young women and girls, survivors of ISIS enslavement, receive lifesaving support, including medical care, food and shelter. The center, already furnished thanks to your generosity, also offers safe space where we will provide much-needed trauma counseling and mentorship.

Your support also helped supply new winter coats and warm clothes for these girls. Many of them fled ISIS in the freezing winter with nothing but the light clothes on their backs. Now, they have good, warm clothes to get them through the rest of winter.

Many of the Yazidi women and girls who have made their way to OWFI's shelter have never attended school. For the first time ever, they are now receiving basic literacy lessons.

Your support is putting a powerful tool in their hands – the ability to read, and eventually, to put their own stories into words. I've included a photo of one group, hard at work!

Your support also brings vital job training, including sewing and embroidery classes so that the women can find work in their new community. It's hard for them to imagine now, but someday they'll be able to use these skills to raise income and stand on their own two feet.



Thanks to you, these women and girls have the tools they need to rebuild their lives in a loving, supportive environment.

Meet Awaz and Fairouz

Crossing the threshold of the center, women are greeted by two warm and welcoming faces: Awaz and Fairouz. Each has been trained by Yanar, who brings a wealth of knowledge from years of working with MADRE to manage an underground shelter network across Iraq. Now Awaz and Fairouz

are carrying on that model of protection and support for women. These two young women are hosts, mentors, big sisters, friends and so much more to each woman or girl who enters the center.

Awaz is trained as a social worker and is making sure that each woman gets the tailored support she needs. She speaks to each woman about her past with sensitivity and strength, and works with OWFI to provide the necessary services. Meanwhile, Fairouz is an educator and trainer. Under the leadership of these two activists, women and girls have been visiting the center regularly for counseling and literacy lessons.

What Comes Next

Thanks to you, MADRE and our grassroots partners will stand by these women for the long haul. We plan to expand the number of beds available, so that we can shelter even more women and girls in need. MADRE will provide training, based on our decades of work, to help Awaz, Fairouz and other OWFI activists strengthen even more their ability to provide trauma counseling. And we're organizing for doctors to perform not just routine check-ups, but even reconstructive surgery for the most serious injuries suffered by women and girls brutalized by sexual violence.

With your support, Yanar and the OWFI team are seeing these women and girls through their trauma. Slowly, they will begin to remember what it's like to feel secure. And they will start to imagine a safer, happier future. Thank you so much for making this vital work possible.

Warmly,
Yifat Suskind

Executive Director, MADRE

Women and girls captured by ISIS have endured the unimaginable: abducted from their families, sold at market, forced into sexual slavery. The lucky ones have managed to escape, but they have a long road ahead to healing.



Transylvania

7 In only four months, UCS will welcome 12 guests from our Partner Church in Barót, Transylvania, the latest in the series of yearly interchanges between the two congregations that began in 2012.

We are counting on your generosity to make the trip a wonderful experience for our visitors and a lot of fun for everyone who participates.

UCS youth and adults will pick up our visitors from JFK Airport on the evening of Friday, July 29, greeting five high school youth, a university student and six adults including returning Barót Youth Group advisor Arpi Egyed and bring them back to Summit.

The visitors will stay in homes of the congregation, with youth hosted in families of members of the UCS Youth Group. Several families have also volunteered to host group dinners.

"We are so excited about this visit," said Rev. Emilie Boggis. "We hope many members of our congregation will join the activities so they can get to know the folks from Barót. We have a marvelous itinerary planned."

The schedule includes two daytrips to New York City, canoeing on the Delaware River, a day at the Jersey Shore, a visit to the Statue of Liberty, a guided tour of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, a pool

party at the Summit community pool and more. Visitors will participate in the UCS service on their last Sunday, Aug. 7, before returning home Aug. 9.

Volunteers are needed to provide transportation to the airport, NYC and elsewhere. Can you lead a walking tour of midtown or downtown? Help with a group dinner? If you like flipping flapjacks, please volunteer to help with a Pancake Breakfast Dinner on Monday Aug. 1.

The trip planning committee, co-chaired by Marion Ceruzzi and Jean Crichton, estimates the cost of the trip at about \$5,000, which includes activities and meals outside the hosts' homes as well as the group leader's airfare. The other visitors are paying their own airfare. UCS members who join the visitors will pay their own expenses for renting canoes, buying lunch, entry to the Statue of Liberty, etc.

The main fundraising for the trip will be the collection plates for both services on Apr. 17. Please give generously when the plate comes, or mail a check to the office with BARÓT TRIP on the memo line. If you like, you can choose to underwrite one of the activities, such as visits to the Statue of Liberty (\$216 for 12 people), or a day of canoeing (\$43 per person)? Just let Jean or Marion know.

The trip planning committee and our visitors appreciate your generosity!

OUTREACH

Volunteer at Chancellor Ave. School

You asked for more volunteer opportunities and WE DELIVERED! Here's an opportunity to help at **The Chancellor Avenue School's Saturday Academy** beginning on April 16.

At the Saturday Academy, Chancellor Avenue teachers tutor 2nd through 5th Grade students in math & language arts, preparing them for the 2016 PARCC test. UCS volunteers assist these teachers in the classroom, working with a small group of students and/or providing one-on-one help, as needed. **No prior teaching experience is required.**

The Academy runs for six weeks - **Saturdays April 16, 23, 30 and May 7, 14, 21 from 9:30 am to 12.** We need 10 people each day. **Sign ups are first come, first served so sign up early as slots go quickly!**

Location: Chancellor Avenue School (321 Chancellor Avenue in Irvington, NJ)

Register: [Click Here](#), or you can sign up in the UCS Lobby.

The Junior Youth Group
cordially invites you to our

Family Game Night



at the
Chancellor Avenue School
844 Chancellor Avenue
Irvington, NJ 07111

Friday, April 22nd from 6:30 to 9:00PM

Chili dinner (vegetarian & meat versions will be offered), salad & dessert will be served. Please bring any of the following contributions as admission to this fun-filled event:

- New-in-box school supplies (ex: notebooks, pencils, washable markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, backpacks, erasers)
- Educational games like SET, Spot It, Bananagrams, Quiddler, Equate, Blokus, Kibboodle or Cribbage
- Coloring books or activity books (cartoon characters, math & language arts, word puzzles and history would be wonderful)

Help us continue our commitment to the Chancellor Avenue School by being part of this event, **please RSVP with your name and number of guests by April 18th to:**

religiouseducation@ucsummit.org or (908) 273-3245 ext. 105.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Are you already in a SIP circle and eager to do more?

Aesthetics: Arranging Sunday morning flowers

Children's RE committee (CREC) - programming for kids in grades K-8

Choir: Raise your voice in song with Mitchell, meets Thurs. evenings.

Communications: work on UCS' presence in the larger world

Finance: Advising the board on fiscal matters

Green Earth Ministry: Working for environmental justice

Membership Committee: Greeters, Ushers, Guides who welcome the congregation and visitors on Sunday mornings

Partner Church: Working with our partner congregation in Romania

Racial Justice Task Force: Works for racial equality within and outside our congregation

Social Action: Living our values in the world working for justice, meets first Tuesday of the month

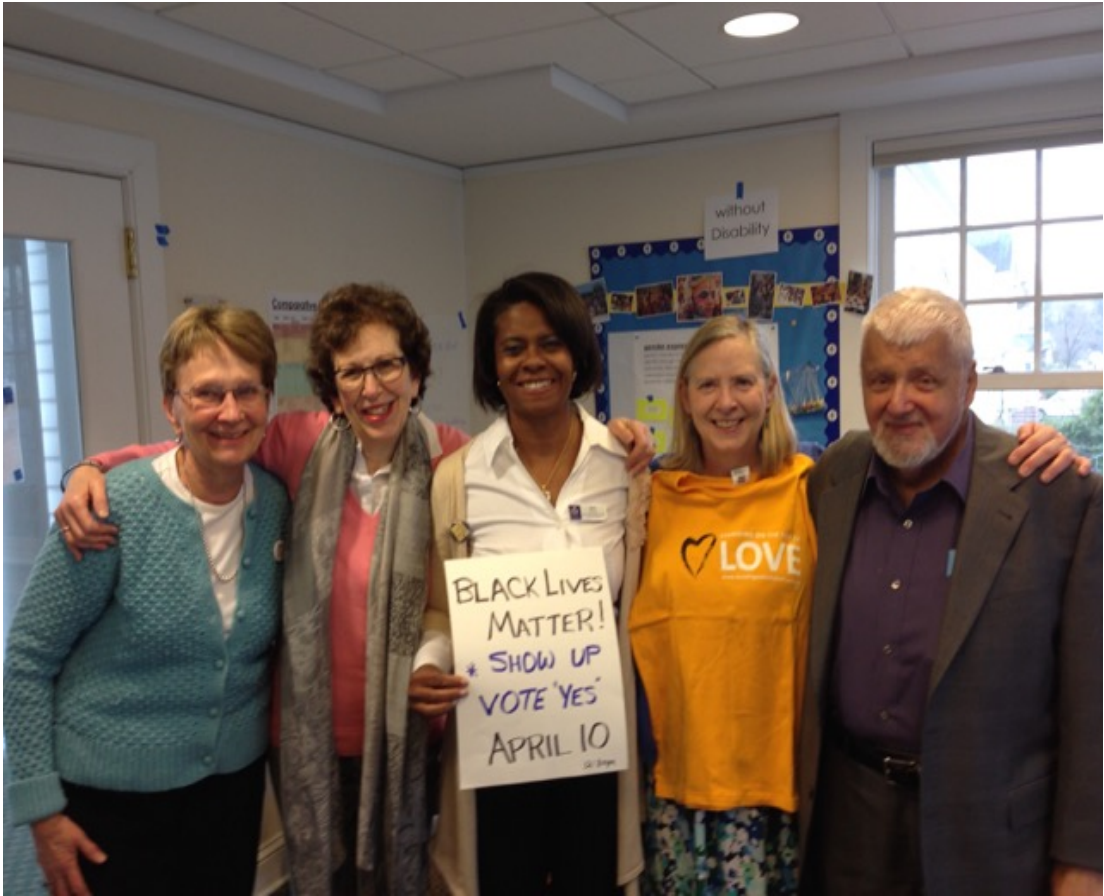
Youth Advisors: Adults who work with our Youth Group

Also in April

Join other Congregation members on **Sunday April 3** (after each Service) to discuss UCS' vote to take a Stand affirming that Black Lives Matter. Task Force members will be there to talk about the journey that

led to the development of the statement, and to answer your questions. (The statement and a set of FAQs is posted on the UCS website.)

You may be interested to hear about UCS' members' experiences with Summit Conversations on Race, UCS' Beloved Conversations sessions, and the recent "Books That Matter" discussions, as well as to learn



about other UU Congregations' experiences supporting racial justice. The vote to take a Stand will be on Sun. April 10 at 12:30 ... we hope you will join us. If you want to speak with a Task Force member Claudia Cohen, Jean Crichton, Cathy Menendez, Mia Morse, Kimi Nakata, Mel Polatchek or Lorraine Wearley would be happy to hear from you.

REV. TERRY SWEESTER
Interim Senior Minister

REV. EMILIE BOGGIS
Minister of Congregational Life

TULI PATEL
Executive Director

LAURA BETH BROWN
Director of Religious Education

MITCHELL VINES
Director of Music

KIMBERLY ROSSITER
Membership and Youth Coordinator

CLAIRE ANDERSON
Communications Specialist

KAREN JACKSON
Stewardship Director

JAMAINE CRIPE
Religious Education Office

LOURIGAMONTI
BookKeeper

CARL LEVINSKY
Sexton

LESLIE ALAMANDARES
House Keeping

MARIA OLGA HERRADOR
Child Care

TRANSITIONS

Moves

Alf Walton has moved to Scarsdale, NY to be closer to his daughter. His wife, Annalise, is now in a Westchester center for Alzheimer's patients. He has joined the White Plains UU congregation and plans to sing in the choir!

Healing

Cathy Bataille had hip replacement surgery at Morristown Memorial on Fri, March 18. She is recovering well!

Deborah Graham had complications after a surgery to repair her Achilles tendon, including a nasty infection. She will have to undergo the surgery again followed by life with a boot and crutches and no driving. Good books and visits are welcome.

Passings

Jeanette Oishi a long-time member of the congregation who moved to Massachusetts with her husband, Satt, in order to be closer to their daughter, Michelle, and grandson passed on March 30.

Michelle McKern's father died from pancreatic cancer on March 3, and his memorial was held in Colorado on March 13.

Show your care

Vince Walsh, who lives with Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), had a grand mal seizure the week of March 14. He is doing well but is now confined to a bed. He and his wife, Sue, have excellent caregivers and greatly appreciate your cards and visits. They could use a little help with: Sunday dinner; they'd love for you to stay and eat with them, if interested click [Here](#). An hour long visit to help with email or read a book to him, if interested click [Here](#).

VISIT A Long-Time UCS MEMBER

There are many long-time UCS members who do not get to UCS regularly. So we bring the UCS community TO THEM! This February we had lunch with Unitarian Universalists at Winchester Gardens in Maplewood. Thanks to Pat Thornton for her amazing skills at inviting and organizing this event.

Join the Team:

The UCS Care Team is looking for volunteers to serve on four teams;

Visit Team: visits regular UCS elders monthly, Transition Team: coordinates care & connection post-surgery or birth, First Response Team: responds in crisis, Caring Network: coordinates meals, rides, visits for members.

Contact careteam@ucsummit.org to sign up.



**SUNDAY
MORNINGS AT
9:30 AND 11:15**

APRIL 3

*Humpback Harbinger: A
Design for Loving*

led by Rev. Terry Sweetser
featuring Mitchell Vines

APRIL 10

Courageous Creativity

led by Rev. Emilie Boggis and
Mitchell Vines

Featuring the UCS Adult Choir

APRIL 17

Cathedrals of Community

led Rev. Terry Sweetser
featuring Mitchell Vines,
piano.

APRIL 24

Passover Seder

UCS Staff, Multi generational
Service

Have a special event to celebrate?
Donate flowers to our beautiful
building to honor your loved one or
special event. See Tuli for more details
or email her at tuli@ucsummit.org.

Danny Lubell died on Friday, Feb. 19 after battling a brain tumor and cancer. His memorial service is planned for Saturday, April 2 at 3 p.m. He is survived by his wife, Eugenia, and his grown sons, Sasha and Nick. Danny was a beloved and longtime advisor of our youth group. In honor of Danny, a Memorial Legacy Fund for Youth has been established to support UCS youth and their engagement with UU activities and programs. Checks may be made to UCS with Memorial Legacy Fund for Youth in the memo line or send a text to 978-203-5733 with the dollar amount and Fund2 in the message. Thank you!

