



# The Beacon

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington, NY  
*\* A Liberal Religious Faith \**

[WWW.UUFH.ORG](http://WWW.UUFH.ORG)

October 2016, Vol. LXI, No. 10



## SUNDAY SERVICES

### October Monthly Theme: Healing

After popular request, Rev. Jude will be continuing his reflections on the sermon message of The Five Stones from our Ingathering service. He will further explore James Luther Adam's "fifth stone" on October 9 and his "fourth stone" on October 16. [The link to the original sermon can be found here.](#)

**Oct. 2 - Building the Beloved Community" led by Chris Crass**—In response to news headlines demonstrating the enduring reality of institutional racism in our country and an ongoing movement within Unitarian Universalist congregations across the United States to commit to the struggle for racial justice, this is a coming together for inspiration, song, prayer and fellowship. ~ The choir will sing. (Rosh Hashanah begins this evening.)

**Oct. 9 - (Rosh Hashanah observed) "Choose Hope"** During this time of High Holy Days in the Jewish liturgical calendar, how do we begin again in hope after times of hardship? ~ Rev. Jude preaching; Isabella on piano

**Oct. 16 - "When Goodness Happens"** We seem to perennially wonder about the nature of evil because it can be so hard to fathom. But we rarely wonder about the nature of good. How does goodness obligate us? ~Rev. Jude preaching; Isabella on piano

**Oct. 23 - "United Nations Celebration Sunday Service"**  
The service will feature the UUFH United Nations Senior and Youth Envoys, presenting an integrated service that speaks to the 2015-'16 highlight achievements accomplished by our faith's UUA-United Nations Office, complemented by interwoven songs and instrumentation performed by the UUFH Choir. Features include the special Blue Ribbon Congregation Award Ceremony, and talks concerning the Racial Justice Initiative, the Climate Justice Initiative, the Women's Initiative, the LGBTQ/Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity human rights advocacy, as well as our youth's participation in the 2016 Intergenerational Spring Seminar. This is a wonderful chance to learn about our Faith-In-Action. ~ Ben Testa, Sr. UU-UNO Envoy; Ben Sussman, Youth Envoy; Julia Moskowitz, Youth Envoy

**Oct. 30 - "Behind the Mask"** Every year around this time, many of us put on costumes and masks for parties and frivolity. What masks do we wear the other 364 days of the year? How might these masks distract or support us in healing ourselves and a broken world? Everyone is invited to wear costumes. We will have a costume parade during our service. ~ Preaching, Starr Austin, Director of Lifespan Religious Education; Multigenerational Family-friendly service; Isabella on piano

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### SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK OCT. 9 - AFTER THE SERVICE



### "SPLIT THE PLATE" OCTOBER



**EVERY CHILD IS  
OUR CHILD**  
[FIND OUT MORE>>](#)

### SHOPPING FOR THE FELLOWSHIP



[CLICK HERE & FIND OUT MORE>>](#)

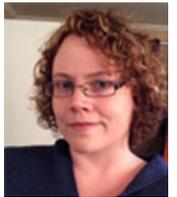
## MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



Our Fellowship, a long advocate for justice and service in our wider community, continues to stretch and find new ways to focus our ministry outward. We end September and begin October with a series of workshops titled "LEARN" (Let's End All Racism Now), which will bring in local community leaders, police officers and a nationally known activist-author to further our public conversation about race and community. I hope to see you there Sept. 30-Oct. 2. Later in the month, one of our Sunday services will focus on our work with the United Nations Office and will help us imagine how our community expands to the whole world. From Oct. 17-31, I will be using some vacation time for professional study. Starr and I will be away for a week at a professional conference focusing on family ministry and how we can deepen our support for that work at home. Following that, I'll be working with an international cohort of UU clergy to plan a week-long Interfaith Institute that will occur 2018. ~ **Warmly, Rev. Jude**

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Healing is written into our mission statement as a congregation: "In religious community, we nurture our individual spirits through caring for one another and helping to heal the world." Our congregation has recently turned its eye toward healing racism. In the past year we've read *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson, held panels on solitary confinement, hosted discussion groups, recommended reading and now are offering a weekend event with Chris Crass, Unitarian Universalist author, speaker and anti-racist. Chris is a dynamic speaker and I highly encourage all of our families of middle and high school teens to register and attend this event as a family. If you need help with the fee, reach out and let me know. It is a fundraiser, but we want all our teens who can attend to be able to do so.



This year in our 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade class we are exploring racial justice as our core curriculum. Our youth will be getting more comfortable talking about race, looking at how stereotypes lead to implicit bias, learning about privilege and power dynamics in various groups, and exploring the prophetic deeds and words of women and men in our religious history and presenting who worked for freedom and equality. There will be a monthly family take home sheet of videos, discussions and essays to read together to support this learning. The sheets will be made available to the whole congregation and can be located on the RE table. They will typically be distributed the second week of the month.



Youth Night kicked off Sept. 21, with a lively group of teens brainstorming how we want to spend our time together this year. Did you know our weekly youth group is open to all middle and high school youth? We had a teen join us from the Shelter Rock congregation. In youth group we break bread, build community, assist one another with homework, work on service projects, and hold worship. Every Wednesday 6:30 pm-8:30 pm.

~ **In Faith, Starr Austin, Director of Lifespan Religious Education**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In late August there was a very interesting blog post circulating online. I noticed that it was read not only by Rev. Jude, but by several members of the Fellowship who had shared it with each other because it struck a chord with them. What struck a chord with me was that the people reading and sharing this were involved in different committees and aspects of the Fellowship that aren't necessarily related to each other. At that time, in fact, Rev. Jude and I spoke about the article and brought it to the BOT retreat where it was a point of discussion. What is so interesting? The subject of the article was how to spread your message and grow outside of your congregation and the point that struck me the most was in focusing on giving to others in order to make people happy. You can hear language like, "People realize that when they give, others live," and it sounds easy, but the deeper meaning of this concept is profound.

Does one belong to a religious organization or a faith in order to please yourself or can you put aside some of your desires in order to make others happy? I found a similarity in this message with Starr's story on Ingathering Sunday about having a full bucket. In short, the story imagines that everyone has a bucket over their head; when people express kindness, compassion and appreciation toward you then your bucket fills up. When your bucket is full, you are happy. When your actions fill the buckets of others then you are filling your own bucket as well.

I like this idea. Is the focus always on ourselves and our own happiness or are we able to step outside of our personal

preferences as our main goal and fill each other's buckets? In doing so perhaps we then find joy and become a better congregation. ~ **Michael Amendola**

### VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I just finished reading Sarah Vowell's book *The Wordy Shipmates* about the Puritan settlers in New England. As UUs, we might think we have nothing at all in common with the dogmatic and intolerant Puritans, who punished seemingly tiny theological differences of opinion with banishment from the community or worse. (If you caused enough trouble, you might be executed in the town square or find yourself on the next ship back to England—missing your ears.) Certainly I have no interest in emulating most aspects of their beliefs and behavior. However, I was struck by the value they placed on community. John Winthrop, the first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, wrote what Vowell calls “one of the most beautiful sentences in the English language”: *We must delight in each other, make each other's conditions our own, rejoice together, mourn together, labor and suffer together, always having before our eyes our commission and community in the work, our community as members of the same body.* This is something to aspire to. (At the very least it is interesting to reflect that there is often something to be learned even from those whose opinions we might otherwise find objectionable.) I came to Unitarian Universalism for my spiritual life, but I've stayed for the community. We're all members of the same body. I hope that we can continue to deepen our connections with each other as we work to make our Fellowship stronger. ~ **Elisa Fante**

### TREASURER AND FINANCE

We wanted to send a thank you to all that contribute in so many ways to the UUFH. Specifically though, with the subject of Finance in mind, want to thank those who contribute monetarily as well. If it was solely “hopes, dreams and good thoughts” to keep our doors open, we would never have an issue. However, the reality is while those other items are important, so too is the financial aspect.

So, thank you to all the members that pledge, friends that donate and other ways that money comes to us. Yes, even participating in events like the Services Auction helps our bottom line. In addition, at our second part of the annual meeting, when we discussed the parking lot, we made a specific ask (plea) for people to donate directly and additionally for the parking lot and accompanying landscaping to come. We are pleased to say the response was terrific, and we raised over \$100,000 for that specific ask within a few short weeks. Thank you!

While we have raised a significant amount of money, the bills keep on coming, as well as our giving to others which we want to continue and of course increase if possible. So, feel free to keep us in mind with your generosity. We are also looking to heighten awareness for legacy giving (such as leaving the UUFH in your wills, etc.) in the near future. In the meantime though, if you have any questions on this or any other financial subject, please feel free to reach out and ask. Some examples are ways to save taxes by giving appreciated stock, lowering your Adjusted Gross Income by giving directly from your IRA instead of via a Required Minimum Distribution, and so on. ~ **Brian Cohen, Treasurer and Jean Marra, Finance Chair**

### PARKING LOT UPDATE



It was a nail-biter, but we have the building permit in hand and we're now officially under construction! The erosion and construction fencing was installed and the site inspected by the town engineer. We even obtained an unexpected Highway permit. Be prepared that this weekend you will arrive at the Fellowship to see a different landscape as trees that were considered unhealthy and dangerous—and some that are in the way—are being removed in the first phase of construction. Any tree surrounded by orange fencing will be saved, including one of the cherry trees. The others will not survive being moved, but when all the construction is done, there will be new tree plantings to grow on our grounds over the years. We will also probably be taking care of replacing the cement in the front walkway soon as well. And to those second graders who are worried that the rocks on which they like to climb are being removed, rest assured that they are simply being slid over and will still be there for years to come. The North lot will be worked on first. If you arrive at the Fellowship and can't use the North lot, you'll be able to use the South lot by the kitchen, the back loop and the lot adjacent to the memorial garden for the time being. As we have more specific dates when each phase is taking place, we'll send out dedicated emails. If you have any questions, please contact me. If I don't have an answer, I know where to find one!

~ **Liza Burby, Parking Lot Committee Chair**



### **Friday, September 30 (7:30-9:30 pm)—Discussion Forum**

**Long Island Racial Justice Forum: Black Lives Matter** (suggested donation \$10)—A panel of local racial justice activists will join Chris Crass for a lively and informative discussion of our past, our present and hopes for our future.

### **Saturday, October 1 (10 am-4 pm, lunch included)—Anti-Racist Workshop—Pre-registration required/space is limited**

**Workshop: Courage for Racial Justice**—A dynamic, day-long workshop to inspire real-life justice efforts in our times. (\$60 Admission; \$45 for Seniors/Teens--Scholarships available; no one will be turned away for lack of funds.)

### **Sunday, October 2 (10:30 am) Sunday service at UUFH**

**“Building the Beloved Community” led by Chris Crass**—A coming together for inspiration, song, prayer and fellowship.

To register for events, go to [chriscrass.eventbrite.com](http://chriscrass.eventbrite.com). For questions/scholarships, contact [socialjustice@uufh.org](mailto:socialjustice@uufh.org) or call: 631-427-9547.

### **GOLD COAST GHOSTS - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 7 pm - 9 pm**



A hauntingly spooktacular evening of ghost stories and the tales of the ghost hunting adventures of the Long Island Paranormal Investigators.

The Fabled Roaring 20's left behind many legends of ghosts and hauntings along Long Island's Gold Coast. Here on the site of the famed McKesson Brown Estate, the Long Island Paranormal Investigators will share the results of their investigations in our area. They will explain how they do

it and share stories of haunted Long Island. The program also includes stories of the mansions of the “Gatsby” era, including the heiress flapper's tale, one of our local legends. Will we feel her presence? Get in the Halloween spirit and find out! Halloween refreshments available for purchase. For entertainment purposes. May not be suitable for young children or the faint of heart.

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS](#) - [VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PUBLICITY OUTING OCT. 2](#) - [CLICK HERE FOR INFO](#)

### **TIME TO FILL OUT YOUR OFFERINGS FOR: 2016 UUFH Service Auction Event**

**Saturday, November 19 - Dinner 6 to 7:30 - Auction 7:30 to 10**

**UUFH Main Hall - <http://www.togetherauction.com/uufh>**



We're getting closer to the exciting Services Auction on Nov. 19. It is our major annual fundraiser, as well as the social event of the year, featuring dinner, entertainment, raffles and the auction itself. Throughout the evening you can bid on parties, excursions, services, food and even your own parking space or sermon topic. For this year's event on **Saturday, Nov. 19**, we've chosen the theme **UUFH - “Enter, Rejoice and Come In,”** which emphasizes our welcoming attitude and embodies our welcoming environment to all who participate in our Fellowship. The excitement and enthusiasm of the auction will be fabulous, and the wonderful items will draw you in to bid and compete to be the winner of the

prize. It's a good time for the whole family. Come on out and join in the fun!

Make your dinner reservations on Sundays at the Development Committee table in the Social Hall. Meanwhile, in order to have interesting options to auction, we'll need your offerings. It can be a party, food, excursion, item, service or instruction. You can pick up a form on Sundays at the Development Committee table, or enter your items here: <http://www.togetherauction.com/uufh>. The deadline is Oct. 20.

Since that night we also have very popular raffles, with baskets prepared by our committees, we're asking all committee chairs to start planning what you want to offer. Please put a wrapped basket or box in the board room before Oct. 31. Any questions, contact your board liaison.

We're also asking anyone with photos of the 2015-'16 auction events/parties, to please email them to [mbell@intergate.ca](mailto:mbell@intergate.ca) for our slide show. The image on the left is of the Christeen Sail offered this summer by a group of Fellowship members. It was a wet day, but the spirits were high! For more information or to volunteer, please stop by the Development Committee Social Hour Table.

~ **Margie Bell, Services Auction Coordinator**



**LIAC CORNER**

The Long Island Area Council of Unitarian Universalist Congregations (LIAC) is a cluster of 11 LI UU congregations. LIAC serves as a catalyst to promote inter-congregational cooperation, denominational awareness and effectiveness through communication, leadership and educational programs. LIAC focuses on cooperation, resource sharing, education, advocacy, service and spirituality, and serves as a beacon for liberal religion. Here is a schedule for two of the programs LIAC offers.

The **Coming of Age program** <http://www.liacuu.org/COA/index.html> teaches a more in depth understanding of Unitarian Universalism where youth can begin to develop their personal religious philosophies. Coming of Age Program - Save the dates:

- Saturday, Dec. 10 Parent/Mentor Orientation
- Saturday, Jan. 21 Session One
- Saturday, Feb. 11 Session Two
- Saturday, March 18 Session Three
- Saturday, April 8 Session Four
- Saturday, April 22 Make Up Date (if needed)
- Saturday, May 6 Session Five
- May 18 - 21 Boston Area Trip
- Saturday, June 2 Recognition Service

**Our Whole Lives (OWL)** <http://www.liacuu.org/OWL/index.htm> is a series of sexuality education curricula which helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. There will be an Our Whole Lives Program for those in grades 7-9- here are the program dates.

2016 Jr. High OWL Saturdays:

- Oct. 1 1 PM -4PM Orientation
- Oct. 8 1 PM – 6 PM
- Oct. 15 1 PM – 6 PM
- Oct. 22 1 PM – 6 PM
- Nov. 5 1 PM – 6 PM
- Nov. 12 1 PM – 6 PM
- Dec. 3 1 PM – 6 PM
- Dec. 10 1 PM – 6 PM

**UU Connect** provides meaningful opportunities for our youth (7th to 12th grades) to connect with other UU youth outside our congregation for activities ranging from ice skating to apple picking to social action and more. A Long Island UU Youth Group will be offered also this year. Details will be forthcoming. Contact David Silver with questions: [ds60210@gmail.com](mailto:ds60210@gmail.com).

**LIAC IS SEEKING QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR**

The position is paid and currently budgeted for 15 hours per month. **For information regarding LIACs mission and purpose, please see [liacuu.org](http://liacuu.org). Send Applications to [mabarish@gmail.com](mailto:mabarish@gmail.com)**

PAID AD

**“A Thurber Carnival” A revival of James Thurber’s comedy**

Featuring Lee Kurfist and Annette Kirk

**October 14 & 15 - 8:00 p.m.**

**October 15 & 16 - 3:00 p.m. matinee**

at Playhouse at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church, 270 Main St., Northport, NY

A fundraiser for St. Paul’s ministerial work

**\$20 at the door** or [www.thurber.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.thurber.brownpapertickets.com)

## CALL FOR BEACON ARTICLES

We're looking for feature articles about committee work we do here at UUFH, with a focus on how we're all living our values. Tell readers what it means to you to work on committees like Social Justice, the Development Committee, HIHI, the Grow to Give Garden, the Gallery, Sunday Programming, Not Necessarily Seniors and more.

**\*HOW TO SUBMIT** Please submit all articles in a Word documents, saving the document with the article's name and Beacon month and year. Email to [communications@uufh.org](mailto:communications@uufh.org) with the subject line as BEACON – SEPT. 2016 (or appropriate month and year). For more info: <http://www.uufh.org/new-guidelines-for-uufh-publications>

## ONGOING EVENTS & NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



VISIT: For daily updates and ongoing events.

<http://www.uufh.org/members-corner/events-calendar>

<http://www.uufh.org/news-announcements>

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**Today's Editor: Bridgette Nicolini**

**Next Beacon: November edition  
By the first week of November.**

**Beacon Deadline for submissions:  
October 15, 2016**

**See New Guidelines for Beacon  
Submissions.**

[http://www.uufh.org/new-guidelines-for-uufh-  
publications](http://www.uufh.org/new-guidelines-for-uufh-publications)

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