



The Beacon

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

WWW.UUFH.ORG

April 2017, Vol. LXII, No. 4



SUNDAY SERVICES

April Monthly Theme: Transformation

April 2 "The Right Choice" Guest Speaker Laura Pedersen
Americans are presented with more options than ever before. Not only is having a choice considered a fundamental part of our democracy, it is also thought to enhance our lives. However, while some choice is better than none, more can also become less. Special Musical Guest: Long Island Pride Chorus singing; Isabella on piano.

April 9 "A Long Hard Look" Author Barbara Kingsolver writes, "In my own worst seasons I've come back from the colorless world of despair by forcing myself to look hard, for a long time, at a single glorious thing: a flame of red geranium outside my bedroom window. And then another: my daughter in a yellow dress. And another: the perfect outline of a full, dark sphere behind the crescent moon. Until I learned to be in love with my life again." Rev. Jude preaching; Isabella on piano.
** Second Sunday Potluck follows the service.*

Saturday - April 15 Passover Seder – 6pm in our Main Hall. - [SIGN UP INFO](#)

April 16 "Easter Sunday" Rev Jude preaching; choir singing. Join us for this celebratory, family-friendly, multigenerational service.

April 23 "One Week After" Reflections on faith and doubt, one week past the celebration of Passover and Easter. Rev. Jude preaching; Isabella on piano.

April 30 "What I Learned From My Daughter's Wedding" Guest Speaker Andrew Feigin

Our daughter got married back in October. In the year leading up to the wedding we dealt with numerous issues both big and small. In this talk, I will share how Unitarian Universalist teachings helped to make the experience an even more wonderful, life-changing one for all involved. Choir singing.

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***SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK
APRIL 9 - AFTER THE SERVICE**



"SPLIT THE PLATE" APRIL



**Burundi Unitarian
Refugee Relief Fund
[FIND OUT MORE>>](#)**

SHOPPING FOR THE FELLOWSHIP



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MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

On April 4-6, five Fellowship members and I will be attending the annual Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office's Intergenerational Spring Seminar in NYC. Here's a little more about this seminar: "The new political environment in the United States is mirroring a global movement of increasing authoritarianism, nationalism and injustice toward people whose rights are at risk. UUs are mobilizing to resist the normalization of these trends. And, it's especially important at this moment for UU congregations to be in solidarity with faith groups throughout the world and engaged in global advocacy work. Through partnership with the UU College of Social Justice, this year's UU-UNO Spring Seminar is designed to strengthen the activism of attendees as part of the growing resistance movement. This includes fostering strong ministerial leadership in global advocacy for justice and peace." I will also be attending a workshop track that will focus on preaching and leadership in global engagement and advocacy. UUs are coming in from around the globe for this program! I look forward to bringing more of this learning back to our Fellowship. ~ **Warmly, Rev. Jude**

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is transformational ministry through learning, sharing, reflecting, questioning, exploring and experiencing the world around us. We engage with what it means to be human, to be a UU, to be alive in this very moment in time. Both the student and teacher, the facilitator and participant, in each of these scenarios enters the experience and leaves it transformed in some way. While each of us is on our own responsible search for truth and meaning, we are also living into covenant and creating a beloved community both within the walls of the Fellowship and beyond. This month, I encourage you to engage in some of our learning opportunities.



Read our monthly small group ministry packet found on our website under Adult Religious Education and attend one of our small group discussions on the first or third Sunday in the board room from noon-1:30pm. ~ **Starr Austin, Director of Lifespan Religious Education**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Something I've been thinking about and wanted to mention are the older members and seniors in our congregation. In some cultures these folks are referred to as "elders," which I think is a dignified definition and that's what I'll use moving forward. If you think about our elders, their volunteerism and involvement in our Fellowship with all the things they do is amazing. Think of any committee from the Board of Trustees on down and our elders are actively involved and have been for years.

In my role as President I get an opportunity to interact with many of our elders, both in meetings and in social situations. Let me tell you that they are a wealth of knowledge. I have leaned on several for advice, opinions and historical perspective with Fellowship matters. This has been invaluable and I appreciate being informed from their experience. It's an opportunity that all of us should take advantage of. Given this age of social media, e-mail, texting and immediate communication not everybody is comfortable with the latest technology. Maybe offering to get a coffee for someone is better. I urge all of us to make an effort on Sundays to start a conversation with an elder, maybe someone you don't know so well. Listen to their views, experiences and perhaps gain a greater view of our Fellowship community. ~ **Michael Amendola**

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This will be a column of random thoughts and reminders. (I do realize that the same could be said for many of my columns). First and foremost, committee chairs, please, I beseech you, start working on your annual reports. They are due May 1. Compiling these reports is a big job for our office staff and volunteers, so please make their jobs easier by submitting your reports on time. Reports should reference the committee's charter or mission. This is the place to describe the committee's goals, accomplishments and challenges. Past reports can be found in the Member's Corner of our website, in the "Fellowship Business" section. If you have questions about what should be included in your report, please reach out to your Board of Trustees liaison.

Another reminder for Committee Chairs: If you have not done so recently, please connect with your liaison on the Long-Range Planning Committee to discuss the status of your committee's Mission- and/or Vision-related project.

Everyone: The Development Committee is planning some exciting events and we will need all hands on deck to make these successful. There will be many opportunities to help out in big or small ways.

A final thought. I read these words in a blog about dog training (“The Cognitive Canine”), but they seem like good advice for most situations: “If you decide to speak out, do so from a place of kindness. Remember that you don’t know if people are doing their best, but it will make your job easier if you assume that they are.” ~ *Elisa Fante*

TREASURER AND FINANCE MESSAGE

Some Reminders As We Head Towards the End of Our Fiscal Year

As mentioned in the past couple of months, we (the Finance team) have just started on the 2017-’18 budget. We will be rolling our sleeves up and have two meetings to put it in place April 12 and April 26 at Jean Marra’s home at 7:30 pm. We open these up to the UUFH “public” and for people outside the Finance team that wish to attend, please either email me at: bدارcohen@hotmail.com or call my home # at 631-261-6139 (to make sure we have enough room).

We will discuss at a high level the state of the budget and finance at the first part of the Annual Meeting on April 23. We will get deeper “in the weeds” at a Budget & Finance forum on May 21, currently scheduled at 11:45 (may be pushed back to accommodate teachers to attend). As well as reviewing the proposed budget, we can also discuss questions and/or concerns on your mind as to financial matters regarding the UUFH.

It is our hope that people who have any questions or concerns or want to give suggestions will attend one of these many sessions that we are having as we welcome the input. By the time that we present the budget at the second part of the Annual meeting on June 11, while it may not be technically too late, for practicality speaking it is tough, and by that time a lot of discussion has already taken place. That is why I have been publicizing these meetings so that we can take the input prior, as well as the many, many discussions that the Board of Trustees has had on these matters. ~ *Brian Cohen, Treasurer*

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - APRIL 23, 2017

The 1st of our Annual congregational meetings for this year will be held on Sunday, April 23, 2017 at 12:15 in the Main Hall. At this meeting we will vote to elect officers to fill vacancies on the Board of Trustees and approve the minutes of the last congregational meeting in June of 2016.

There will also be a Parking lot update and budget presentation. New business may be addressed by the Board of Trustees or may be brought up by a member from the floor. Discussion and voting on all motions that are brought under new business and seconded will be postponed to the agenda of Part II of the Annual Congregation meeting held on June 11. Bagels and coffee will be served. All members of UUFH are encouraged to attend. ~ *Kim Schultze - BOT Secretary*

SECOND NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

The Nominating Committee is delighted to announce three new additions to our committee for three-year terms starting in 2018. They are Debbie Cohen, Bea Coryell and Gerri Farrell. Their bios follow. We will be voting for them, as well as the new Board of Trustee officers, at the April 23 Congregational meeting. As we reported in the March Beacon, the new BOT appointees are: vice-president, Karen Mazzotta, treasurer, Jean Marra, trustee, Peter Montemurro and secretary, Brigitte Zimmer.

In addition, the Board has appointed Beth Feldman and Dave Sussman to join the Committee on Ministry (COM). Their bios are also below. ~ *Respectfully submitted by Judie Gardner, Chair, Gwen McHugh, Lisa Moskowitz, Amy Olander and Barbara Yanuck*

Debbie Cohen (Nominating)

I have been a member of the UUFH for over 15 years. I am married to Brian Cohen. Together we raised two beautiful daughters here at the Fellowship. Amanda is 20 and works at Stony Brook University Hospital as a nursing station clerk. Rebecca is 18 and is a senior at Harborfields High School. She is attending college next year; where is still to be determined. Both ladies have attended RE classes, Sophia Fahs camp, OWLS, Coming of Age and the Bridging program.

Since becoming a member, I have been involved with different UUFH committees. For many years I was a member of the RE committee serving various roles and attended Sophia Fahs camp as a program leader. I have taught RE for a number of years, and more recently I have been involved with the Seder and the annual plant sale. I consider the UUFH an extended part of my family. We have established many long-lasting friendships here.

Bea Coryell (Nominating)

I joined the UUFH in the early 1960s. My first experiences were in teaching RE and joining the choir in which I was a member for “many” years. My lengthy membership has granted me the pleasure of participating in a number of committees: the Sunday

Program Committee, Adult Education, HiHi and Memorial Garden, as well as volunteering for short-term tasks in several areas. The last four years I have been a member of LIAC's Multi-Faith Forum, which has included visiting several high schools, churches and/or other agencies to introduce Unitarian Universalism as one of Long Island's many religions.

I feel that I have learned and grown in my association with U.U. members, forming life-long personal relationships and ever defining my own spirituality. I am very grateful, and look forward to serving on the Nominating Committee.

Gerri Farrell (Nominating)

My family has been part of the UUFH since the early 90s. My husband Ken and I began attending when my sons Andy and Greg were very young and Ben had yet to be born. I was initially part of the RE committee and eventually became chair. I taught RE for many years as my sons grew up. I moved on to be the Board Secretary when Beth Graham was minister. When Paul Ratzlaff was our minister, I served on the Board as Vice President and President. I was also on the Search Committee that brought us Reverend Jude. I have been on Long-Range Planning and the Nominating Committee. Most recently, I am serving on Pastoral Care. I also preside over our UUFH Book Stall on two Sundays per month, as well as acquire the books. I volunteer at Last Licks, our Coffee House, each month. One of my greatest joys has been to be part of the UUFH choir where I enjoy community and spiritual gratification. I consider the UUFH to be my spiritual home and I am grateful my family grew up in our Fellowship learning acceptance, open mindedness and the encouragement to live lives of integrity.

David Sussman (COM)

I'm married to Mary and have two children, Benjamin and Jackson. I've been a member of UUFH for 15 years. I have served the Fellowship in a variety of volunteer roles, including an RE Cluster Coordinator, a Board member, an RE teacher and a mentor to three of our youth for our Coming of Age Program. I am a current board member for the Sophia Fahs UU Camp and facilitate a Small Group ministry each month at the Fellowship. I look forward to working closely with Rev. Jude Geiger and the Committee on Ministry.

Beth Feldman (COM)

From 1975 until 1997 I lived in Belgium where I was a teacher at the Brussels American School. Then in 1997, on a year's sabbatical from teaching, I studied landscape design in London. After I completed my studies, I returned to Long Island (to my roots in the NY metro area) to begin a second career in garden design.

As I explored my new LI surroundings, I became aware of the UUFH as a social center where various groups held meetings, musicians performed in concert, and CSA (community supported agriculture) members went to pick up their weekly share of vegetables. I didn't attend a service until one autumn day when I read about a Yom Kippur service to be held at the UUFH. I went and loved the fact that the service was accessible and meaningful to me. After that I joined an adult RE exploration/discussion group led by Rev. Paul Ratzlaff. Gradually my involvement grew: I went to more Sunday services; I became more active. I joined Nancy Hume's yoga classes. I became a member of the meditation group and served on the Sunday Program Committee. I am currently involved with the Main Hall Screen Presentation Committee, the daytime book group, and the Grow to Give Garden.

I have been a spiritual seeker my whole adult life, but I had not found anything that felt like a spiritual home until I discovered the UUFH. Finding a community that shares my values, which offers varied opportunities to grow, to learn and to make new friends is a big blessing in my life. Over time, the Fellowship community has become a surrogate family and the UUFH has become a second home. I signed the book on 11/11/11 at 11am, just before Rev. Paul's retirement as minister. 11:11 has always been a magical number for me and Rev. Paul understood.

MAKING A GIFT BY WILL IS EASY!

The most traditional bequest is one in which a member leaves a portion of his or her assets as designated by a will. Wills are used by people of all levels of financial assets. They can be particularly important for those who are not sure that their current assets can sustain the level of giving that they wish that they could give *in their lifetime*. If you want to help the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington grow and thrive for generations to come, consider including the UUFH in your estate plan.

By giving through your will, you can:

- Make a generous gift intention without depleting income.
- Honor or memorialize a loved one.
- Reduce your estate taxes.

We are here to help. Contact Jennifer Sappell or Brian Cohen for further information. We are deeply grateful for your generosity.
~ **UUFH Planned Giving**

UNSUNG HERO NOMINATIONS NEEDED

We need your nominations for those Unsung Heroes at UUFH. The UUFH Unsung Hero Award was initiated in 1993. The Board made these selections until 1996 when a Volunteer Recognition Committee was formed to solicit ideas from the congregation and then suggest names to the Board. Since 1999, this committee has included the Unsung Hero Award recipients from the past year, along with the Secretary of the Board. This year's Volunteer Recognition Committee is Marilyn Kopp-Hecker and Ann Scolnick as our 2016 Unsung Heroes and Kim Schultze as BOT Secretary. The committee's task is to request nominations for the award from the congregation. The award is presented annually to two UUFHers who spend countless hours at tasks that few people know about. The awards are presented at the Celebration Sunday in June. Please contact either Marilyn Kopp-Hecker, 631-427-4898, mjkopp@optonline.net, Ann Scolnick, 631-549-8581 annbern23@verizon.net or Kim Schultze, 631-897-1001, kim.schultze@cbmoves.com with your 2017 Unsung Hero nominations.

PATIENCE AND THE PARKING LOT

I hope we can safely say we've made it through the winter weather and we did so with a much-improved, though incomplete parking lot. I know everyone is impatient for the work to get back underway. However, continued wet grounds that are only just thawed mean we're almost there, but not quite. The good news is that we should be able to have the final concrete work done next week, which means the curb cut you asked for will finally be created in the front pathway, and the work by the kitchen door will be completed, making that area safe again. Lighting is also being installed at this time. And if the dry weather powers-that-be shine on us so that the parking areas can completely dry out, we will soon have the base done on the South lot, followed by the final layer of asphalt all around. Meanwhile, a local Eagle scout has volunteered to create a landscape design for the "chalice" in our front walkway, and will be donating all the planting and his labor. I'll tell you more as I continue to meet with this young man, Ishaan. It's a generous offer and just the beginning of the last stage of our parking lot project, the landscaping. ~ **Liza Burby**

LONG-RANGE PLANNING UPDATE

Thanks to all the thoughtful reports from numerous committee chairs telling us your mission- and/or vision-related projects, the LRP committee is enjoying sorting through all the many excellent ideas you all have. If you haven't yet submitted your report, please contact your LRP representative so that your committee can be included in our May celebration in which we will reveal the activities that are in many cases already taking place. Thank you, everyone, for your input so far. ~ **Liza Burby, LRP chair**

SECOND CHANCE AUCTION

SEAFOOD DINNER WITH PRUE AND MILT. Space is open for seafood dinner on Friday, May 5. We'll have hors oeuvres, wines, delicious seafood and desserts. Contact Milt or Prue at: mmasur@optonline.net or 516-334- 6175.



SPRING 2017 PLANT SALE

Come Support the UUFH Plant Sale and Memorial Garden

What springs to mind when we say "spring?" Surely, not sub-zero temperatures, whiteouts and gale force winds! Think golden sunshine, warm breezes and lots of color! Pink, lavender, blue, yellow and red flowers and carpets of green grass.

The UUFH Spring Plant sale runs until April 30. We are expanding our selections to include perennials, as well as our usual, lovely selection of annuals. All plants will be available for pick-up on

May 13. Download the [HANGING BASKETS](#) and [PLANT SALE ORDER FORM](#) here. And share them with family and friends so they can order their spring garden as well. Contact Debbie Cohen with any questions at 631-261-6139 or bdarcohen@hotmail.com.



PASSOVER SEDER - APRIL 15 6PM

All are invited to join us for our annual UUFH Passover Seder, to be held in our Main Hall. We will share the reading of the UUFH Haggadah, sing songs and enjoy an intergenerational Passover skit performed by our children and a few brave adults. This is followed by a delicious, traditional Passover meal cooked at the Fellowship by the Seder Committee. Look for a sign-up table in the Social Hall after the service on Sundays. Please contact Harriet McKenna with any questions.



LAST LICKS CAFÉ PRESENTS HICKORY BENCH PLAYHOUSE

It's time now for another live performance of the Hickory Bench Playhouse on Saturday April 22 at 7:30 in the Main Hall. Catch the latest dirt from Gossip Columnist Vida Mae Dixon, along with the latest episodes of the Crime Stoppers Police Blotter and Larry Rottweiler Private Eye.

You'll also hear great music from singer-songwriter Cathy Kreger and The John Ambrosini Trio with Premik Russell Tubbs on sax and Katie Pearlman on drums. Enjoy the performances of Caroline Doctorow and her band, The Taylor Brothers, Martha Trachtenberg, He-Bird, She-Bird

and Cecilia Kirtland. The show also features the Hickory Bench Playhouse Cavalcade of stars, including Candice Baranello, Tom Griffith, Jim Pastor and John Tobacco.

Buy tickets at the door for \$15 or reserve your spot early for \$13 at <https://lastlicksapril2017.eventbrite.com>

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE FOR APRIL ~TRANSFORMATION

TRANSFORMATION YES

Ok, let's admit it: We say "no" more often than we can count—or than we are aware of. It's often our default mode. We are so good at coming up with reasons to say no. Not enough time. Too risky. One has to pick and choose. We don't deserve it. Delayed gratification. Distrust. I know better. I want to be in control. The trouble is that "No!" is a lock on the door, a fence that separates, blinders that tragically narrow our sight. Or to use an Easter metaphor, it's the stone rolled in front of our cave. So this month, let's roll that stone away. Let's take a risk and **SAY "YES," NO MATTER WHAT!**

Patricia Ryan Madson, drama professor and author, captures the possibilities inherent in this daring spiritual discipline. She writes,

"This is going to sound crazy. Say yes to everything. Accept all offers. Go along with the plan. Support someone else's dream. Say: yes; right; sure; I will; okay; of course; YES! Cultivate all the ways you can imagine to express affirmation. When the answer to all questions is yes, you enter a new world, a world of action, possibility, and adventure. It is undoubtedly an exaggeration to suggest that we can say yes to everything that comes up, but we can all say yes to more than we normally do. Once you become aware that you can, you will see how often we use the technique of blocking in personal relationships simply out of habit. Turning this around can bring positive and unexpected results. Try substituting 'yes and' for 'yes but' — this will get the ball rolling."

Keep it simple. Your instructions are to try it for two to three days and see how it goes. To keep you on task, print out these words on a small card or piece of paper and place it somewhere you will see throughout the day:

Accept all offers. Go along with the plan. Support someone else's dream. Say: "yes;" "right;" "sure;" "I will;" "okay;" "Yes and..." not "Yes but..."

GETTING TO KNOW US - HOW WE DO THINGS AT UUFH

Please join us on Sunday, April 2 from noon – 2 pm for the second of our two-part conversation “Getting to Know Us – How We Do Things at UUFH.” You will have the opportunity to talk with and ask questions of congregational leaders representing social justice, congregational governance, finance, UUFH history and religious education. We hope your time with us on the April 2 will open doors to deeper and greater involvement in our religious community.

You do not have to have attended a Part I session in order to participate in Part II on April 2. Bagels and cream cheese will be provided as a snack/light lunch. Childcare is available upon request. Please RSVP to the UUFH office at office@uufh.org 631-427-9547, ext. 21.

NEW UU SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLABORATION

With our Rev. Jude’s and LIAC’s help the Long Island UU’s have formed the Long Island UU Social Justice Roundtable with representatives from social justice committees from the 11 congregations that make up the Long Island Cluster. The purpose of the UU Social Justice Roundtable is to facilitate communication and collaboration between individual UU congregations, to build capacity for rapid response to social justice issues, and to network with other social justice organizations and groups working on Long Island. Currently the meetings are held monthly at the UUFH. The next meeting is April 3 at 6:45 pm in the Social Hall. All are welcome to share ideas and resources, meet other UU’s around Long Island and see what is possible when a handful of concerned people join forces for justice. For more information contact socialjustice@uufh.org. ~ **Social Justice Committee**

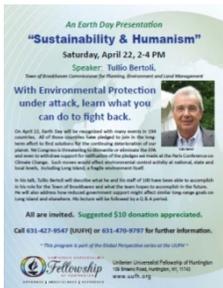


FELLOWSHIP FILM AND DISCUSSION: THE BRAINWASHING OF MY DAD

If you would like to learn how Right Wing media managed to brainwash a nation, join us Friday, April 7 at 7 pm for a screening of *The Brainwashing of My Dad*, along with a lively discussion and Q&A with filmmaker Jen Senko.

As the filmmaker tries to understand the transformation of her father from a non-political, life-long Democrat to an angry, Right-Wing fanatic, she uncovers the forces behind the media that changed him completely. Through interviews with media luminaries, cognitive linguists, grassroots activist groups, such as Noam Chomsky, Steve Rendall, Claire Conner and others, *Brainwashing* unravels the plan to shift the country to the Right over the last 30 years, largely through media manipulation. The result has led to fewer voices, less diversity of opinion, massive intentional misinformation and greater division of our country. This documentary shines a light on how it happened (and is still happening) and raises questions about who owns the airwaves, what rights we have as listeners/watchers and what responsibility does our government have to keep the airwaves truly fair, accurate and accountable to the truth.

This screening is a joint program of the Fellowship’s Social Justice Committee and the Long Island Media Task Force. Yummy refreshments will be served. A suggested \$7 donation at the door is appreciated. ~ **Susie Byrnes**



SAVE THE DATE AND SAVE THE EARTH - [CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

In honor of Earth Day, on April 22 from 2-4 pm, there will be a talk on “Sustainability and Humanism” in the Main Hall as part of the Global Perspective series at the UUFH. The speaker is Tullio Bertoli, the Commissioner of Planning and Environment for the Town of Brookhaven. Bertoli received his Bachelor’s degree in physics from Fairfield University, a Master’s in architecture from Yale and was a Fulbright Scholar who worked in Rome with the American Academy and the National Institute of Urbanism.

Those early years launched him into a stellar career with academic institutions, as well as both private and public organizations. Since 2009, he has led a dedicated staff of 100 for the Town of Brookhaven in their efforts to plan and develop numerous projects that are respectful of our environment and the needs and growth of our economy. There will be a Q & A session during which he’ll be happy to answer questions about where we go from here when the current Administration is doing all it can to undermine environmental protection. There’s a suggested \$10 donation at the door. You can sign up on Sundays in the Social Hall or at <https://uufhearthday.eventbrite.com> For any further details, you may call me at 631-470-9797. ~ **Spencer Ross**



CAN YOU SHOP FOR THE HUNTINGTON COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY?

The Huntington Community Food Council's pantry, which services on an emergency basis our town's hungry population, thanks you all for the generous food donations over the year. But right now there's a shortage of bread: whole grain, white, any kind. Next shopping trip, or sooner, pick up an extra loaf or two for the Little Red Wagon, parked right outside the cloakroom. This coming Sunday, your family can make a difference for another family. Of course, in addition to bread, the needs are many.

The following are always welcome:

- Pasta Sauce; Tomato Paste
- Canned Vegetables: Corn, Beans (All Sorts), Peas
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Hand Soap
- Shampoo
- Spray Cleaners
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly

And the best donation is ... time. Volunteers are needed to stock and tally food at the pantry (choose two hours a month; 10 to noon), or welcome clients as they arrive. We also need folks to help deliver the weekly donations from the UUFH to the pantry, in Huntington Station. For details, call me at 631-220-6235. ~ **Peter McGullam**



BED & BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER IDEA

Our Fellowship is considering the possibility of individuals offering B&B accommodations to other UUs around the country who are visiting the NYC/Long Island area. You may have noticed ads for UU B&Bs in our quarterly magazine, *UU World*. There are many homes and congregations already offering these services around the country and in other countries as well.

The advantages of a bed and breakfast program include:

- Travelers meet hosts who share interests, concerns and values.
- Hosts gain new friends from other places.
- Travelers enjoy comfortable quarters at affordable prices and have the opportunity of obtaining answers to questions about the area.
- Hosts raise money to help support the Fellowship.

If you have a spare bedroom, bedroom and private bath, guest suite, etc. which you would be willing to "rent" out from time to time for a night or two (or longer), we'd love to hear from you. Guests would arrive only on dates convenient for host.

For more information or to let us know about your desire/intention to volunteer for this program, please contact me at 631-549-9191 or judedelano@gmail.com. ~ **Judie Gardner**



SPLIT-THE-PLATE CHARITY FOR APRIL - Burundi Unitarian Refugee Relief Fund (Urgent)

The International Council of Unitarians and Universalists (ICUU) has announced an urgent plea to raise \$10,000 for the Burundi Unitarian Refugee Relief Fund with Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) matching funds—that means funds from our UUFH April split plate will double. Burundi Unitarians continue to suffer a great deal since the political crisis that began in 2015. The church was attacked and ransacked. Its minister, Rev. Fulgence Ndagijimana, was kidnapped, jailed and released only as the result of tremendous pressure from UUs around the world, including petitions signed by UUFHers. Rev. Fulgence fled the country, immediately seeking refuge in Canada. Many Unitarian Burundians had to flee their home. Some are in refugees camps of 60,000 living on a cup of dried beans a day. Others are in Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania with no prospects for sustained survival. This collection will support our Unitarian Burundi refugees. Please give generously. ~ **Karen Mazzotta for Beyond Our Walls Committee**

UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2017

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect and make policy for the Association. This year it's being held June 21-25 in New Orleans. More info on GA can be found

at www.uua.org/ga. Registration opened March 1. Now is the time to book your hotel. If you're going and would like to represent our Fellowship as a delegate to the business meeting, please contact our Board Secretary, Kim Schultz at [631-897-1001](tel:631-897-1001) or Kim.Schultze@cbmoves.com. Rev. Jude will also be going to General Assembly.

LIAC ANNUAL SPRING DINNER WITH FREE AFTERNOON WORKSHOP

The Long Island Area Council of Unitarian Universalist Congregations (LIAC) serves as a catalyst to promote denominational awareness and effectiveness through communication, leadership and educational programs. LIAC invites all UUs to join the annual dinner on Saturday, April 8 at 6 pm. In addition, there's a free afternoon workshop from 2-5 pm, followed by a cocktail hour from 5-6 pm. The workshop, "Fashioning a Congregational Cluster," will be led by Linda Anderson. This lively interactive and fun three-hour workshop will set the theological, as well as the practical foundation, for strengthening the connections between the 11 congregations in the Long Island Cluster. Through presentation, small group work, roundtable discussion and interactive and entertaining activities, participants will begin to define their congregational strengths and explore ways that congregations will discover together that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. The 6 pm dinner costs \$20 per person in advance (payment must be received in advance) or \$25 at the door and \$10 for students. The keynote speaker at the dinner is Claire Deroche. She'll speak about "Creating Compassionate and Humane Communities."

The workshop and dinner will be held at the Veatch House of the UU Congregation of Shelter Rock located at 48 Shelter Rock Rd. in Manhasset. Please R.S.V.P. by April 1. Checks payable to: LIAC, memo line: Spring Dinner. Send payments to: Gretta Johnson-Sally (LIAC Financial Secretary), 5 Reydon Place, Commack, NY 11725. For additional information, contact Gretta, gjsdre@hotmail.com. Learn more about LIAC at www.liacuu.org.

DEADLINE APRIL 15 - CALL FOR "BEYOND OUR WALLS" GRANT APPLICATIONS

Do you have a charitable cause dear to your heart? The UUFH Beyond Our Walls (BOW) committee has been tasked by the congregation to distribute funds for charitable causes through our annual grant program. Based on a percentage of UUFH pledges received for the year, we have \$2,757 to consider for distribution. To download a grant application, please go to the UUFH website link: <http://www.uufh.org/faith-in-action/in-the-community/beyond-our-walls-grant-program/>. Then email the application to BOW@uufh.org by April 15. If you recently submitted a Sunday Split Plate application, it is not necessary to re-submit for this grant. We will be considering all financial requests at this time. Last year, we were able to provide funds to the Murray Grove Retreat & Renewal Center, the Huntington Housing Coalition, Guitars for Vets, a Meditation & Butterfly Garden for a Women's Shelter created by a Girl Scout Troop, and even the UUFH Parking Lot Fund. Thanks in advance for your wonderful ideas to do good in the world. ~ **Karen Mazzotta, Chair, Beyond Our Walls Committee**

**CALL FOR BOW
GRANT APPLICATIONS
DEADLINE 4.15.17**

The Beacon

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP OF HUNTINGTON
109 BROWN'S ROAD, HUNTINGTON, NY 11743

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington

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Huntington, NY 11743

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Today's Editor: Bridgette Nicolini

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

Beacon Deadline for submissions: April 15, 2017

See New Guidelines for Beacon Submissions.

<http://www.uufh.org/new-guidelines-for-uufh-publications>