



The

Beacon

*The Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Of Huntington, New York
A Liberal Religious Faith*

Rev. Jude Geiger, Minister
January 2016 Vol. LVIII, No.18

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

JANUARY 2016

Monthly Theme: Resistance

January 3: "Resolutions Not Withstanding" As we race to make and unmake our new year's resolutions, let us wonder what it means to be a people of resistance. Rev. Jude preaching; Music by Isabella Johnson.

January 10: "Resistance & Freedom" In the web of life we are all interconnected. There are knots in the web, places where people are still resisting systemic oppression and inequality. What does it mean to be connected to those who are still actively struggling for liberation? Multigenerational Service led by Starr Austin and Rev. Jude; Choir singing.

January 17: "How Can You Be an Activist When You Are a Pacifist?"
Worship Leader: Rich Buley-Neumar. Music by Isabella Johnson.

January 24: "Yes to Life" How does resistance stop you from answering the call to live a full and authentic life? Starr Austin preaching; Music by Isabella Johnson.

January 31: "Why Black Lives Matter and What to do About It"

Guest Speaker: The Rev. Karyn Carlo, Ph. D., a retired New York City Police Captain turned preacher, teacher, and theologian. Dr. Carlo is the founder and director of the Clergy, Community, Cops Project. Rev. Jude, Liturgist, Choir singing.

Any musicians who are interested in performing in a Sunday service, please email Richard Hyman, Music Director: music@uufh.org - Thank you!



FROM THE MINISTER

Happy New Year! At this start of a new year, we will explore this month what it would mean to *be a people of resistance*. Our theme this month is resistance. Where are the places in your life that you resist change? What are the things that, for the better, you are resisting against? What habits are you holding onto that hold you back? As we make our lists of resolutions (and break some of them soon after) take a look at what the patterns are among the things you want to change or end. What do those patterns tell you? We often make resolutions to encourage growth or the breaking of bad habits, but we don't always look for the connections between the things we feel we need to shake up. Those connections may tell us some important things about who we are, and who we want to be. Many blessings on a new year, and new beginnings!



I will be away on vacation, January 11 through 25. During that time our Pastoral Care team will continue to be available to support our community. They will also be able to reach out to local UU clergy in the case of a more significant need for ministerial support should more help be needed.

~ *Warmly, Rev. Jude*

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION'S MESSAGE

"Most of us have two lives. The life we live, and the unlive life within us. Between the two stands Resistance."

— *Steven Pressfield*

I hate to meditate. It feels like doing nothing and I despise doing nothing. Yet, I've witnessed firsthand the positive effects meditation has on me. I know my ability to move through the world in a calm and healthy way starts with sitting on the cushion each morning. This isn't enough to make it magically happen. I meet resistance every time I sit. Why is it we have things we know help us, but we resist doing them? In this season of resolutions, we find ourselves making promises to do those things: eat more vegetables, join a gym, drop a bad habit, take up a spiritual practice, and so on. This month I invite you to think of resolutions as a personal covenant and resistance as a teacher. What can we learn about the parts of us that resist bringing forth that unlive life within?



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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we head into the New Year one of my goals is to keep Unitarian Universalist values alive in public education. My daughter and I recently attended a high school orientation for next year's freshmen class at Northport High School, at which several school administrators made speeches. I was struck by the message of consumer culture, portraying our children as products being marketed to colleges. The message was "we will make your children *look* as good as possible to colleges," as opposed to helping them to *be* the best people they can be. The speaker stated they should "do as much as they possibly can while they are here," citing examples of kids who are present at the high school almost every night until late, followed immediately by the statement "we have an excellent drug and alcohol counseling program." The message was clear: Our children are products. They should all aspire to achieve at the highest possible level, at any cost. Appearances are of the highest importance. If your child has a nervous breakdown, counselors are available. What was conspicuously absent from the speech was, we will help your student be a good person and critical thinker, find balance, develop his

or her values, find what they love, and contribute to society. I believe teachers still bring these goals to their classrooms, but with this high-pressure message coming from the administration, it is easy for our kids to lose sight of what matters. We need to hang onto our UU values so that our kids can achieve in a way that they bring love, social consciousness and responsibility to whatever field they choose, at their own pace.

~ **Jennifer Thieke**

VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Being on the Board is a multifaceted experience. There are meetings and decisions to be made, such as approving an expense for a repair, reviewing a policy, or voting to approve the minutes from the last meeting. These things can seem a little mundane, but of course they need to be done. Sometimes a member or a committee approaches the Board with an idea for something they'd like to achieve that has true weight and substance. These ideas are important. They remind us to live our values in the world and can affect positive change in our community. This is exciting to me and reinforces the moral and spiritual aspects of why I am a UU and a member of the Fellowship.

In the current political and social climate, I know that these times can be challenging for us. I also look back at events in UU history and wonder if this is a significant moment for us to take part. I encourage all of us to be active, involved, and bring ideas to the table. As we move into the new year, I hope to witness many such ideas and participate with you in ways that can make a difference.

~ **Michael Amendola**

'TIS THE SEASON TO REMEMBER OUR STAFF

At this festive time of the year, it is our custom to pay tribute to our professional staff, including our Minister Jude Geiger, Director of Religious Education Starr Austin, Music Director Richard Hyman, Office Manager Susie Byrnes, Communications Specialist Bridgette Nicolini, bookkeeper Marianne Reuter and pianist Isabella Johnson. Each one of these people does so much for us all year. Please join in providing a special holiday gift to show them our appreciation. Send one check (to be divided among the staff), payable to UUFH, and denote "Holiday Gift" on the memo line. Mail your check to the Fellowship office attention Treasurer, or put it clearly marked in the collection basket on Sunday morning. Please submit your checks ASAP.

~ **Jean Marra, Treasurer**

DONATING STOCKS & SECURITIES TO FELLOWSHIP

The days are ripe for donating stock to the Fellowship. Many Fellowship members are donating appreciated stock, thereby getting the full value of the appreciated stock credited to their pledges, while not having to pay the capital gains tax. To donate stock or mutual fund shares currently held in a brokerage or fund company account, just call your broker or fund company and give instructions that the stock or fund shares be transferred to Fidelity Investments, DTC #226, for credit to the account #X18-118672. Please call me at 631-261-6139 to advise of your intention to transfer shares so they can be properly credited to you. The direct transfer does NOT identify the name of the donor.

~ **Brian Cohen, Finance Chair**

FELLOWSHIP NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don't Forget Your Services Auction Statements

If you need to see another copy of your Services Auction statement—which includes what you won, who won your offerings, and your invoice—you can download it from: <http://www.togetherauction.com/uufh>. Feel free to contact me at lizaburby@verizon.net if you have any questions. *Please pay your invoice as soon as you can, as the Fellowship budget is counting on you.* Have fun enjoying all that you won, and keep looking here and in the



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Flash for Second Chance Auction items as some of the offerings have spaces available for you.

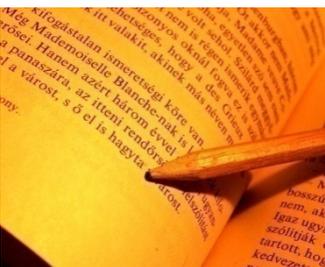
~ **Liza Burby**



Donations of Flowers

If anyone would like to memorialize a person or an event at a Sunday service with flowers on the podium, the donation would be very much appreciated. Please call the office in advance to coordinate a Sunday so we may thank you in the order of service.

~ **Susie Byrnes**



Poetry as Spiritual Practice - Starts January 20, 2016 - 7 pm - 8:30 pm Board Room

Our poetry group resumes after a long break for the holidays. Please join us in the board room the THIRD Wednesday of each month 7pm - 8:30 pm for writing exercises, the sharing of poetry, and a brief discussion on how this supports us spiritually. Email Starr, dre@uufh.org, for more info.

~ **Starr Austin**



January Movie Night - Jean De Florette- Friday, January 8 7:30 pm - 10 pm UUFH Main Hall

Director Claude Berri brings us the harrowing tale of greedy, conspiring neighbors who first block their new neighbor's water source, then try to steal their land for a song in *Jean De Florette*. The 1986 film is a period piece set in rural, post WWI Provence and is one of France's most successful films ever made. Starring the stellar cast of Gérard Depardieu, Daniel Auteuil and Yves Montand in one of the most heartbreaking stories ever told on screen. It will be followed in February with the film *Manon of the Spring*, which resolves the tale with the next generation of characters in a very surprising way.

The new film/discussion series is held in the Main Hall on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 pm. This adult RE offering will present whose subjects that dovetail nicely with the Fellowship's monthly themes. Films chosen for the series will be master art house films that may have been missed the first time around but have stood the test of time and remain classic, important films worthy of deep discussion. **Buttered popcorn, pastries, hot and cold beverages will be served!**

Please join us on Fri., Jan. 8 at 7:30 for UUFH's own "Cinema Fellowship" for a great film, yummy treats and a "reel" discussion following the film! \$5. Donation requested. Open to the public.

Future Dates in the Series(Second Fridays through June 2016):Feb. 12, March 11, April 8, May 13

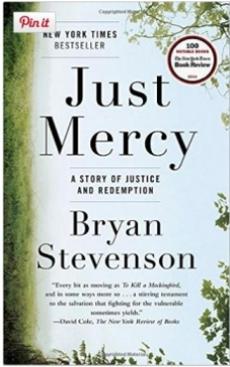
~ **Susie Byrnes**



SAVE THE DATE: Friday, February 5, 2016 - 7:30

Sankofa, Written and Directed by Haile Gerima

"In *Sankofa*, a contemporary African-American woman travels back in time and experiences slavery. Haile Gerima's poetic and precisely detailed film takes its audience into its heroine's life and mind as her moral sense is challenged and changed. No viewer can avoid the discomfiting questions the film so eloquently raises." The New York Times Film Review. For more information, contact Diana Weaving, 631-804-4605 or zekelet@gmail.com.



Just Mercy- Next Session January 10–Noon - 1:30 pm

Board Room

Join us for a series of discussions on our UUFH and UUA Read of *Just Mercy*, a riveting book that explores a variety of actual cases in our prison system today.

Session 1 - Make-up–Sunday, Jan. 10, noon-1:30, Diana Weaving

Session 2 - Monday, Jan. 18 (MLK Day), 7-8:30 pm, Diana Weaving

Session 3 - Sunday, Jan. 24, noon-1:30, Christine Pisani

~ *Helen Boxwill*



Call for Charity of the Month/Split Plate Applications:

Deadline Jan. 15, 2016

Do you have a charitable organization or nonprofit that is dear to your heart? Every Sunday, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington proudly gives away one half of all anonymous cash donations plus checks or cash specified to a Charity of the Month through its split plate collection. Prior beneficiaries have included Save the Rain, Holiday House, the NAACP Scholarship Fund and Smile in a Bag. While we have been accepting applications on a rolling basis, we're attempting to institute

a two-times-a-year call for applications for better planning. Please go <http://uufh.org/faith-in-action/living-our-values/> and click through to the "Split Plate" application drop down to download an easy application. Then email it to BOW@uufh.org. Any questions may be directed there as well. Looking forward to your great ideas!

~ *Karen Mazzotta*



Not Necessarily Seniors - Wednesday, January 6, 2016

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

UUFH Social Hall

Let's start the New Year off with a smile! Would each member please bring in one favorite joke (okay, maybe two) to share with the group! Everyone is welcome so join us from noon to 1 pm for a bag lunch (yours) with coffee, tea and cookies available. The jokes will be banded about from 1 pm to 3.

Not Necessarily Seniors - Writing Workshop- Wednesday, January 20, 2016

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Starr Austin, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, will lead us in the first of two or three writing exercises designed to capture snapshots of our lives decade by decade. The exercises are called "Writing Through the Years." Each decade of our lives gives us particular challenges and triumphs which, over time, shape our identity. Recording the memories of our lives not only gives us a written record to pass on to relatives and friends, it helps us pull the threads of our history together and look at our lives in a new way. Please join us. This is open to all.

~ *Dorothy Burns (NNS)*



Split The Plate Charity for January is:

Sophia Fahs Religious Education Camp, which is held one week during the month of August annually. Young UUs from Long Island and the greater New York area take over Camp Quinipet on Shelter Island, a stunning 25-acre waterfront compound, for community building, religious exploration, worship and fun. Money raised will help children and youth who might not otherwise afford to attend this much cherished sleep away camp

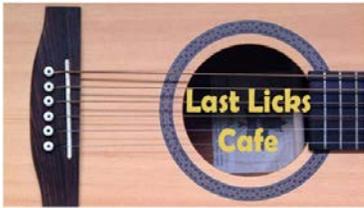
experience. Please give as generously as you are able. For more information, check out: <http://www.liacuu.org/Fahs>

~ Karen Mazzotta - Beyond Our Walls



All Members Gallery Art Show thru January 2016
UUFH Gallery
SPECIAL HOLIDAY EXHIBIT through January 2016.
Reception date to be announced.~ Connie Wain Schwartz

UUFH FUNDRAISING EVENTS



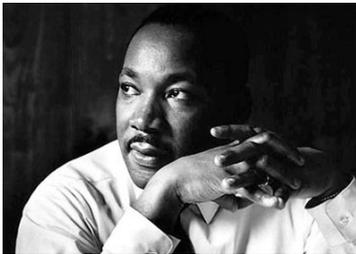
LAST LICKS CAFE is happy to present
The Fauxtones
Sat., January 23 - 7:30 pm
(Open mic starts 7:30 followed by main act)

The Fauxtones consists of our very own, Emmett Hughes, guitar and vocals; and Michael Amendola, sax; Mike Nugent, guitar and vocals; Cliff Hackford, drums; and Dave Noyes, bass.

Playing an eclectic mix of rock, reggae, Motown, jazz and blues. Not to be missed. **Admission \$15 (\$10Seniors/Students)**



THE GREATER COMMUNITY



Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast
January, 18, 2016 8:00 am - 10:30 am

LOCATION: The Hyatt Regency Windwatch Hotel in Hauppauge

The 31st MLK Memorial Breakfast features a keynote address, a sumptuous buffet breakfast, great gospel singing and a warm atmosphere. The UUFH table for 10 or more has been filled for the past five years.

Please join us this year for a moving experience. The cost is \$50 (donation) per person. Checks should be sent to the Fellowship Office marked MLK Breakfast in the memo space no later than Jan. 4, 2016. Also, you must e-mail Paul Glatzer at psglatz@aol.com to let him know you wish to attend. Any questions, please call Paul 724-0871.

~ Paul Glatzer



Report On The Church In Burundi

There is a political crisis going on in the country of Burundi. We have worked with the Unitarian Church there for about 10 years. Rev Fulgence, who spoke at our service and visited with our members, was recently released from police custody but had to escape the country for his safety. Currently there are 215,000 people in refugee camps and more are trying to leave daily. With the acceleration of violence the members of the church and those that helped Rev. Fulgence are at risk.

Some have already left. We are working with the ICUU as a member of the coalition of congregations to support the Francophone Unitarian Churches in Africa. We had not been involved for a while, but

since this crisis they have needed our support. There is an International Crisis Working Group planning on how to help them. The UUSC has provided funds for emergency housing. The ICUU has an appeal to help the help this congregation. The students we support are in jeopardy of not being able to continue schooling next semester since currently the funds at the bank have been frozen. We will keep you informed as to how this progresses. Let us keep the people of Burundi in our hearts.

~ **Helen Boxwill**



What Is Guest At Your Table?

Please extend your generosity this month for the Guest at Your Table program to support UUSC's human rights work. It is particularly important at this time with the concern about refugees and displaced people. Collection of boxes will take place on January 17, at the Martin Luther King Jr. service.

Until then you may still pick up donation envelopes or give cash in the Social Hall after service. Thank you for caring.

~ **Bea Coryell**



Journey to Haiti with the UU College of Social Justice:

From **March 5 –12, 2016** a group of volunteers from UUCSR will make this journey with staff of the UU College of Social Justice (UUCSJ). There is still space on the trip so UUCSR is reaching out to all UU congregations on LI with an invitation to join us. In Haiti we will farm side by side with local residents in a rural area of Haiti at a distance from the capital, Port Au Prince. We will learn how they are remaking their lives, how they are supporting their families through sustainable

agriculture, and how climate change is affecting their lives. If you can negotiate rocky terrain in a rural area and can do some light gardening in a hot, humid climate, you have the physical requirements necessary for this trip. The cost is \$1,500 per person, not including RT airfare to Miami. Financial assistance is available from UUCSJ upon acceptance for those with financial need. If you are interested in participating in this Journey, go to <http://uucsj.org/journeys/haiti/> for more information and to register. Questions? Contact UUCSR Social Justice Coordinator Claire Deroche at cderoche@uucsr.org or 516-472-2977.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS



Happy New Year from the Thieke Family!

Wishing our UUFH community the radiance, joy and good will of the season.~ Susan & Paul Glatzer

To all our Fellowship friends – Happy Holidays to all and blessings in the New Year. ~ Bob & Mary Jane Wochinger

May you enjoy a peaceful and joyful holiday & a happy and healthy New Year! ~ Liza & Steve Burby

To the Fellowship, Still Love You After All These Years!~ Cathi Zillmann

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For For For
Rev. Jude Geiger, Minister
Starr Austin, Director of Religious Education
Richard Hyman, Music Director
Susie Byrnes, Administrator
Jennifer Thieke, President

Today's Editor: Bridgette Nicolini

**Next Beacon:
The first week of February**

**Beacon Deadline:
Friday, January 15, 2015**

**For Beacon submissions go to:
[www.uufh.org/e-publication-
posting-request](http://www.uufh.org/e-publication-posting-request)**