

# The Beacon

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

Rev. Jude Geiger, Minister  
May 2015 Vol. LVIII, No.11

## UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

### May 2015 - Theme: Beauty

**May 3 "The Red Door"** How do we build beauty into our lives? What role do we have in its creation? How do the stories we tell shape the sense and form of the places where we find beauty? Rev. Jude preaching, choir singing

**May 10 - Choir Music Sunday**

**May 17 - "Between the Shadow and the Soul"** Exploring the power and beauty of darkness. Starr Austin preaching, Isabella on Piano.



**May 24 - "What is Beauty"**, led by Sunday Programs Committee. Isabella on Piano

**May 31 - "Accepting Grace"** When the times of hardship finally pass, how do we learn to see the changes? In the transition from the winter times of our spirit to the warmer seasons of our heart, what must change? Rev. Jude preaching, Isabella on Piano.

**To all congregants:** *If you are interested in performing music at a Sunday service, please contact Richard Hyman at [music@uufh.org](mailto:music@uufh.org)*

## FROM THE MINISTER

As many of you already know, Brian and I are getting married on May 8th, in Brooklyn, NY surrounded by family, friends and colleagues. Rev. Victoria Weinstein will be officiating. She is the same UU minister who offered the Charge to the Minister at our service of Installation last year honoring our call to this new ministry together. I will be away from May 7th and return to the office on May 18th. In April, I was talking with the person who cuts my hair about the upcoming wedding, and she knowing that I am a minister asked, “So you’re having it not in the church because you can’t get married in the



church, right?” And I answered, “No, it’s just a logistical consideration for our out-of-state families. My religion has honored same-gendered weddings for decades.” I’m grateful to be part of a religious tradition that routinely is on the right side of history, again and again. May we continue to challenge our assumptions and our beliefs in the light of openness and compassion, knowing that the work of justice is never complete, and ever relies upon each one of us. Our thoughts and actions matter deeply to the world and the people around us. ~ **Warmly, Rev. Jude**



## DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION'S MESSAGE

Beauty is one of the dominant themes of our over culture. Magazines, media, television, and mainstream music are all pushing ideas of beauty; who is and isn’t, what is and isn’t, and how much we value it. When something becomes such an intrinsic part of our society it is useful for us to pause and think about it in relation to our religious values. What is beauty? Who decides? Is there something more to beauty than what meets the eye? We connect emotions to the idea of beauty. We each have reactions to art, to nature, to daily experiences and interactions. What role does beauty play in our spiritual practice? ~ **In Faith, Starr Austin**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we quickly approach the end of our Fellowship fiscal year and prepare for our budget vote at the June 7 congregational meeting, money is a topic of focus for those of us on the Board and our Finance team. While it may seem that conversations about money aren’t very spiritual, the fact is that we can’t be who we want to be as a Unitarian Universalist congregation if we can’t pay our bills. We have salaries to pay, lights to keep on and parking lot holes to fill (yes, I promise, that is happening). It’s just the reality that every congregation and every denomination worldwide faces. (I always find it helpful to know we’re not alone.) That is why at our April congregational meeting we held a frank discussion about our challenges in balancing the budget, and we will have a Forum after the service on May 17 to continue the conversation. We are open to ideas for fundraisers and building use income. Please share your thoughts with the BOT and our new Fundraising Committee being spearheaded by Ben Testa.

If you haven’t had a chance to pledge for next year—or you still have to make payments on this year’s

pledge—please feel comfortable speaking with me or our treasurer Jean Marra. No one likes to talk about money, but like the weather, it's something we all must deal with daily. I can't think of a more caring community in which conversations about finances can take place since all stories and circumstances are respected and honored. To my mind, that makes the topic of money spiritual after all. Call me to chat about it at 631-549-4483 or email me at [lizaburby@verizon.net](mailto:lizaburby@verizon.net) ~ **Liza Burby**

### **VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Through service, I have come to understand the true meaning of the word “intergenerational” in the context of the Fellowship. I am guilty of the following at the Fellowship: only talking to people I already know, staying home on days when there is an “intergenerational service,” volunteering only among other parents with similar age children, and many other small attempts to remain in my comfort zone. And so I was overwhelmed when my volunteer services at the Fellowship threatened to take me outside my comfort zone. During the Pledge Drive I had the opportunity to make home visits to people with whom I might never have become acquainted, some of whom are longtime members. I learned some interesting facts: Did you know that dance parties were held at the UUFH during the 1970's?! When I attended the memorial service of a long time member, I was touched to hear peoples' memories of relationships that had lasted forty years. Through service on the Board I have befriended members older than I with whom a friendship just needed an opportunity to develop. I have enjoyed getting to know people whose years at the Fellowship, institutional knowledge, and years on Earth exceed my own, but whose stories are not so different from mine. For these “intergenerational” opportunities, I am grateful. ~ **Jennifer Thieke**

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS**

We, the Nominating Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington, are pleased to put forth the following names and the positions sought starting in July 2015. The voting for these positions will take place at the congregational meeting on June 7 (though the names were already presented at the April congregational meeting). For the Board of Trustees: Patrick McGloin and Judy Greene have been nominated as trustees, and for the Committee on Ministry, Nikki Willard and Bob Bader have been asked to serve. Their bios are below.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Brenner,  
Jenna Kern-Rutile, Ben Testa and Lee Kurfist.

### **Board of Trustees Candidates:**

#### **Judy Greene, Trustee**

I have been a member of the Fellowship since 1992 when my husband, family and I moved here from Connecticut. Over the years, I have played various roles in the stewardship of the UUFH, including serving as Renaissance Faire queen, stewardship cluster coordinator, treasurer and member of the canvass committee. I was a founding member of the Beyond Our Walls Committee, have been an RE teacher, was a Beacon editor and have worked on the Nominating Committee twice. In the wider UU community, I was a Sophia Fahs Camp staff person for 16 years. I am a new-ish pediatrics nurse and

recently became an empty nester. I look forward to a second "stint" as a member of the UUFH Board.

### **Patrick McGloin, Trustee**

I have been attending UUFH along with my wife Renee and daughter Samantha since 2008. I was raised Roman Catholic and Renee, Lutheran, but neither one of us had been attending any sort of formal service for many years. As new parents, Renee and I began the search for a congregation that could assist us in raising our daughter to be an informed, compassionate and contributing member of society. After a brief search, we came upon the UUFH and have been attending as regularly as possible ever since.

During the past seven years, we have seen many changes at the UUFH. From Reverend Paul's retirement, through the transition period with interim Rev. Nancy, to our current spiritual leader, Rev. Jude. During this time we have also witnessed the growth of our daughter as she attends the various RE offerings available at UUFH, currently under the guidance and leadership of Starr Austin. Samantha's passion to help this past winter with the Sunday night HHI program has led me to get more involved within our Fellowship. First, becoming an assistant RE teacher and now being asked to join the UUFH board of trustees, which I humbly accept. I believe I can be a productive Member of the Board due to my continued involvement within the UUFH community, my over 30 years of employment in the Information Technology field and my past experiences as president of a 500-member hiking club, a 10-year position that I found very rewarding as it led to Renee and me meeting on the trails in Woodbury.

If confirmed to the Board of Trustees, I look forward to the continued growth of the UUFH and all its members.

### **Committee on Ministry (COM):**

#### **Bob Bader**

I am a candidate for a three-year term on the Committee on Ministry (COM). My wife, Shelley Lauer-Bader, and I have been members of the UUFH since 1983 and our children, Emily and Max, grew up in our Religious Education program. Since becoming a member, I have served on Care Share, Long Range Planning, Renaissance Faire Council, DRE Relations, DRE Search Committee, RE Cluster Coordinator, Mission Statement Task Force, RE Committee, Sunday Program, Adult Program, Endowment, Investment, Nominating Committee, Journey Toward Wholeness, Board Trustee (1989-91), and Board Vice President, President, Past President (1996-98). I have been an avid Religious Education teacher since 1986 and continue to find ultimate rewards in getting to know our "UUFH kids."

#### **Nikki Willard**

I have been a member of the UUFH since 1987. I met and married my husband, Bruce Willard at the Fellowship. My daughter, Andrea, grew up in the Fellowship. I have been Vice President, President and Board Trustee; Co-Chair of Castle Care, Membership and Nominating Committees. I was a member of the Search Committee that brought Rev. Beth Graham to us and the Ministerial Intern

Relations Committee when Rev. Alison Cornish was our intern minister. I have led Stillpoint Services (midweek meditative services begun by Alison Cornish when she was with us). I've been an RE teacher, a member of the DRE Relations Committee and a Canvasser for various pledge drives. I look forward to serving on the Committee on Ministry and hope to bring value to it with my varied leadership experiences at the UUFH.

## FELLOWSHIP BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - Sun., June 7 - 12:15 pm**

#### **UUFH Main Hall**

The second of our Annual congregational meetings will be held on Sunday, June 7, 2015 at 12:15 in the Main Worship Hall. At this meeting we will vote on the remaining officers to fill vacancies on the Board of Trustees and the Committee on Ministry. We will also vote on the 2015-'16 budget. Bagels and coffee will be served. All members of UUFH are encouraged to attend.

*~ Kim Schultze*



### **SPRING PLANT SALE PICK UP**

Pick up will take place on **Sun., May 3** for Mother's Day hanging baskets and **Sat., May 16** for all other plants on the patio outside the Social Hall.

If you have any questions, call Jean at 631-673-3287.

*~ Debbie Cohen & Jean Marra*



### **SPLIT PLATE CHARITY FOR MAY**

North Shore Holiday House, a tuition-free summer sleep-away camp enriches the lives of low-income girls and empowers them to navigate the world ahead. Our accredited program encourages healthy choices and self-esteem, physical activity and love of the outdoors. The need to create safe, wholesome recreation for children caught in poverty is tremendous. Many

girls are in foster care and get to spend time with siblings who are housed separately. All donations go directly to fund camp operations. Visit: <http://www.nshh.org/> ~ Michelle Byrne

### **SPECIAL SPLIT PLATE COLLECTION FOR NEPAL EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS**

**Sunday May 10** we will have a special split plate collection to aid the recovery of the Nepal earthquake victims through the UU Service Committee. Please give generously at this traumatic time.

*~ Rev. Jude and the BOW Committee*

## **HIHI SEASON WRAP UP**

Another HIHI season has been completed! As one of the founding congregations for the Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative, this marks our 11th season. From December 1 through March 31, Huntington houses of worship house and feed Huntington homeless. During this year's season of 120 nights, 2800 overnight stays were provided, serving a total of 53 men over the season.

Sunday night is UUFH's HIHI night. On 2-3 Sundays a month, UUFH members and friends provide everything needed to run the program (partner churches volunteer at UUFH for the other nights). This year, on the 9 UUFH volunteer nights, we hosted a total of 195 overnight stays, with as many as 28 guests on any given night.

### ***Here are just a few of the things that go into a successful season like this:***

- 153 Volunteer slots enthusiastically filled, with individuals, families, and groups
- 195 bowls of hot soup
- 520 sandwiches, packed with love and ready to go with our guests for Monday mornings
- 30 blankets, sheets and towels that were set up, gathered up, washed, and set up again
- 1 religious education program, with lots and lots of kids and youth, providing Christmas cheer
- 1 chorus, joining us on every UUFH night, lightening the load
- Lots of new members and first time volunteers helping out

If you volunteered, THANK YOU!!!! You are the heart and soul of this program. Thank you not just for your work, but for the kindness and compassion you show our guests. Thank you for being generous and reliable. Thank you for sharing your gifts.

Extra special thanks go to monthly managers Joanne Polichetti, Ellen Serota, Marcia Thompson, and Bea Coryell! ~ ***Allyson Barish***

## **LETTER OF THANKS**

Dear Rev. Geiger,

Please accept the NAACP Huntington Branch's personal thanks to you and your congregation for your generous donation to the Branch's Scholarship Awards Program. Your contribution and the contributions of others like you helped the Branch assist over sixty-five needy students in the Town of Huntington. A special thanks to Paul and Susan Glatzer and the Journey Toward Wholeness Committee for continuing the legacy of the late Frank McWade, a former advocate for our Scholarship Program.

Your assistance to our Scholarship Program clearly demonstrates not only your commitment to eh NAACP, but to the Long Island community as well. Thank you again for your support. We look forward to working with you I our future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Betty J. Miller, President

Irene Moore, 1st Vice President

(Dated April 9, 2015) ~ ***BOW COMMITTEE***

## NEW BULLETIN BOARD POLICY

Thanks you to the members for embracing the new bulletin board in the Social Hall. We have already saved several reams of printer paper because of the change!

Items posted to the board reflect the Sunday to Sunday events and announcements and some special announcements. A more comprehensive list of events and announcements can be found in the Fellowship Flash, monthly Beacon and other UUFH media like the web calendar and Facebook. Copies of the current Beacon are also available in the foyer at the Fellowship. Weekly paper announcements will be available on the piano in the Social Hall.

Please continue to submit items for the bulletin board and paper announcements through the online submission form on the home page of the UUFH website. The bulletin board policy is that only the UUFH Office Volunteers may post to the board so as not to overcrowd the board with commercial or non-UU materials. The board will be updated weekly by the office volunteer staff to be refreshed for Sunday morning. All postings must be UUFH or UU related and be non-commercial and must be posted by a UUFH office Volunteer. ~ **Susie Byrnes, Fellowship Administrator**

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| <u>Member</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cornell Cooperative Extension</li><li>• Neighborhood Network Organic Landscapers' List</li></ul> | <i>Timothy J. Schmitz</i><br><i>President</i>  | <u>Licensed and Insured</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suffolk License 38764-H</li><li>• Nassau License H2077580000</li></ul> |
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PAID AD

## FEATURED EVENTS

**NOTE:** All scheduled Events for this month and future months can be viewed on the uufh.org Web Calendar <http://uufh.org/featured-events>

## MAY ART GALLERY EXHIBIT



**Photographer Stan Mehlman**  
**“Flights of Fancy”**  
**“Meet the Artist” Reception:**  
**Sunday, May 17, 12 -2 PM**

Stan Mehlman is an award winning nature photographer with photos in The World Bird Guide, Photographers Forum Best of Photography 2012 and is a Master photographer with the Huntington Camera Club. Stan has had numerous library and gallery shows in Nassau and Suffolk counties as well as a photo in the LI Museum.

Stan is very pleased to be able to share some of his portraits of birds and people. His photos reflect his travels and a connection with the environment. They reflect his desire to capture the moment; the moment of interaction with the subject. He is especially fascinated with birds; all 9865 species of them. Stan says that “to see them flying is to experience a special sense of freedom and grace. To be able to capture that in an image is a challenge and a gift”. He has a book titled “On the Wing, Photographs by Stan Mehlman.”

Stan is a retired chemistry professor and has been doing photography since he was eleven years old starting with a homemade pinhole camera. His involvement with the technical as well as the creative side of photography for most of his life has provided him with a way of looking at the world that he may have not realized otherwise. ~ **Connie Wain-Schwartz**

## FIFTH ANNUAL JOAN McWADE & TODD STUTZMAN MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE



**Sun., May 3 - 9:30 am to 2 pm**

The Fifth Annual Joan McWade & Todd Stutzman Memorial Blood Drive will be held in the Social Hall from 9:30 am to 2 pm on Sunday, May 3. The drive had to be postponed from its original date in February, due to weather conditions. Donations have been lower due to winter weather, even as demands have risen. Please consider donating blood and sharing this lifesaving gift. Sign-up sheets to schedule an appointment will be on a table in the Social Hall on April 11, 18 and 25 after Sunday services\*, or you may call Marilyn Kopp-Hecker at 631-427-4898 or Johanna Leopold at 631-673-3539 to schedule an appointment. Coffee will be set up as usual on the kitchen counter, but people are asked to take their coffee into the gallery as the social hall will not be available.

\*Those who had signed up for the February date do not need to sign up again, unless they wish to donate at a different time slot. ~ **Johanna Leopold**



## **ON BEING DISCUSSION GROUP**

**Tues., May 5, 7 pm - 9 pm**

**UUFH Board Room**

**TOPIC: "The Mystery and Adventure of Life and Songwriting" With Joe Henry**

Songwriters! Poets! Lovers of learning! Lovers of creativity!  
Lovers of life! Come join us!

From Joe Henry: "...if as a writer — as any kind of creator — if you look within, that's a very finite space. If you use that lens to look out and use your experience to look at everything else, it's infinite."

"I think that the rawest, most brutal parts of our humanity ... can be incredibly beautiful if we're willing to see it that way. That's the great disparity. What's the great quote from Tom Waits where he said, "I love beautiful melodies telling me terrible things."

Krista Tippett writes: "In life as in song, Joe Henry says "we're really called not to dispel mystery but to abide it, to engage it." He brings an inward wisdom to the art and craft of making music. Cherished by fans and fellow musicians alike, he's produced a dozen albums of his own and for an array of artists, including Ani DiFranco, Elvis Costello, Bonnie Raitt, and Billy Bragg. And, he's written songs together with Rosanne Cash and Madonna. With Joe Henry, we probe the mystery and adventure of discovering life through music."

Come join the group as we listen to Krista's conversation with Joe Henry and then discuss what we've heard.

I hope to see you there. ~ **Andrew Feigin**

[To See All Second Chance Auction Items on the UUFH website. Click here.](#)



**FEATURED AUCTION ITEMS:**

**Vanderbilt Planetarium Sat., May 2, 10am**

Opened in March 2013, the Vanderbilt's exciting new Planetarium in Centerport has been getting rave reviews! On Saturday, May 2, join the Planetarium Director for a one-hour guided tour of this state-of-the-art Konica-Minolta star projection system. Meet at 10 a.m. before the facility opens to the public) for the tour, and then, if you wish, stay to view one of the new shows -- ticket provided.

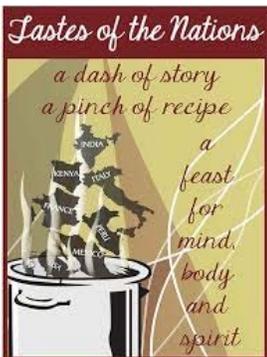
Designed for adults, and young folks interested in projection and astronomy.

Offered by Paul Glatzer. 631.724.087 **\$25 - pp - 8 available**

**Color-Full Dinner Party Sat., May 16, 7pm**

Color our palates with foods in pink, purple, blue and more as we celebrate spring with this unique dinner party. Every guest is assigned a color and must bring a side dish to match. Think it can't be done? This is UUFH anything is possible! Ask those who have participated in the past and brought delicious--and clever--options. We'll provide the main meal, desserts and beverages. But you get to bring the fun part.

**\$25 - 3 available**



**MULTI-CULTI FEAST**

**Sat., May 16, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm**

**UUFH SOCIAL HALL**

Share family roots and favorite recipes to celebrate a long-awaited spring! We'll usher in the thaw by sharing our differing heritage.

Journey Toward Wholeness welcomes our youth to plot member origins on a world map as we listen to music from around the globe and tell our family stories with food. Write up your recipes, labeling where they come from, and a mic will be

on hand to share our tales.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SET-UP / CLEAN-UP / BREAK-DOWN**

Arrive at 6pm to help.

Kindly **RSVP** your plan to attend / volunteer to Diana Weaving at [zekelet@gmail.com](mailto:zekelet@gmail.com) ~ **Diana Weaving**

**POETRY AS SPIRITUAL PRACTICE**

**Tuesday, May 19, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

**UUFH Board Room**

Does writing feed your soul? Are you interested in developing your craft? Are you looking for new ways to develop your spiritual practice? Join us each month as we explore the spiritual practice of writing poetry. This adult religious education group is open to beginners as well as seasoned poets. Through the use of writing prompts, discussion on prose and poetry, and exploration of our monthly theme, we will strengthen our writing muscles in this spiritual practice.

Led by Starr Austin, Director of Lifespan Religious Education ~ **Starr Austin**



THE LONG ISLAND PRIDE CHORUS PRESENTS

## *beautiful day*

### **LI PRIDE CHORUS SPRING CONCERT**

**Sat., May 30 - 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm**

**UUFH Main Hall**

Come join the Long Island Pride Chorus for our annual Spring Concert 'Beautiful Day'.

A wonderful evening filled with music, fun and friends!

**Tickets: \$25 adults, \$20 children 16 and under**

For tickets, send your name, address, phone number, email address, # tickets requested and check made payable to LI Pride Chorus to: LIPC, 39 Gabrielle Dr. East Norwich, NY 11732. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope so your tickets can be mailed. If order is received by May 22 tickets will be mailed; after that they will be held at the door.

Info: [LIPrideChorus.org](http://LIPrideChorus.org)

Contact us at: [LIPrideChorus@Hotmail.com](mailto:LIPrideChorus@Hotmail.com) or 516-205-9711

If you are interested in placing an ad for your business in our concert program, please contact us at [LIPrideChorus@Hotmail.com](mailto:LIPrideChorus@Hotmail.com) to request an ad form. ~ Cindy Quart

### **THIRD ANNUAL SOURCES SUPPER**

**Friday, May 29, 6:30 pm to 9:45 pm**

Please join us of a night of fun, food and fellow-ship! We've changed the program to be family friendly - children and adults can participate together in the main hall. Our Sources Supper aims to create a deep connection with our Unitarian Universalist heritage via storytelling and conversation around a common meal. The stories represent events in UU history that have shaped our beliefs and practice. Family friendly activities and conversations occur around questions and activities following each story. We will have sign-up sheets in the main hall starting Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. So please stop by and sign up for this fun night nigh and learn a little more about Unitarian Universalist history!

~ **Lisa Lo Piano Moskowitz – Sources Supper Committee**

## **THE GREATER COMMUNITY**

### **TALKING ABOUT RACE**

**Sat., May 9, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**LOCATION:** Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Central Nassau, 223 Stewart Ave., Garden City  
The Advisory Committee of the Long Island Unitarian Universalist Fund invites you to a special event:

Talking About Race, A Conversation to Build Community, on Saturday, May 9th from 10 am to 1 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Central Nassau, 223 Stewart Avenue, Garden City. RSVP to [mguyther@licf.org](mailto:mguyther@licf.org) ~ **Mary Beth Guyther**

### **SOPHIA FAHS RELIGIOUS CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN REGISTER at:**

[www.liacuu.org/Fahs](http://www.liacuu.org/Fahs)

- Camp runs from Sunday, Aug. 9 to Friday the 14th, at Camp Quinipet in Shelter Island.
- Campers whose parents are members of LIAC congregations (including UUFH) can receive an additional \$50 discount by using the coupon code "LIAC15" at registration.
- Financial Aid (supplied by congregations and LIAC) is available for those suffering from financial hardship ONLY if completed applications are received by April 1. Please see Starr Austin for a financial aid application
- We accept campers from 3rd to 12th grade (based on grade to be entered in Sept 2015). Younger campers MIGHT be accommodated (if older sibling attending) by contacting the camp board and only if parent accompanies child as staff)

#### **OUR MISSION:**

To provide enjoyable, practical and spiritual experiences in a safe, beautiful and natural environment that will inspire children, youth and adults to explore their identities: personal, communal and Unitarian Universalist.

#### **OUR GOALS**

- To provide a safe and friendly environment
- To encourage personal exploration and creative community building in a relaxed atmosphere
- To provide positive role modeling
- To develop a caring community for all campers and staff
- To strengthen a sense of Unitarian Universalist identity
- To connect more deeply with our 7 Principles through Program, Activities and Worship.

~ **Matthew Barish**



### **UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **INVITATION TO UUA'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) 2015 Wed., June 24 - Portland, Oregon**

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect and make policy for the Association through democratic process. This year GA is in Portland, Oregon, June 24-28. The theme for GA 2015 is "Building a New Way." Most events will be held in the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Portland, OR 97232. UUFH can send six delegates and registration began in March. More info on GA, registration costs and hotel/travel costs can be found at <http://www.uua.org/ga/index.shtml>. Please contact me (UUFH BOT Secretary) at 631-897-1001 or [Kim.Schultze@cbmoves.com](mailto:Kim.Schultze@cbmoves.com) if you would like to attend. ~ **Kim Schultze**

# Religious Education

## Imagine This...

Starr Austin  
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Imagine a congregation where every child and teen is known by at least 5 adults who are not in their family.

Imagine religious education classes that run like small group ministry, where relationship building and exploration of theology, ethics, and justice are built into every session and sessions are in alignment with our monthly theme.

Imagine a weekly youth night where middle school and high school teens come together for homework help, tutoring, worship, and community building activities. A place that empowers them, builds self-esteem, and provides leadership opportunities.

Imagine a monthly family night where families share a potluck meal followed by a multigenerational religious education session.

Imagine our monthly themes are built into RE for all ages. We are a community learning together.

Imagine monthly social justice projects and opportunities for all ages.

Imagine more multigenerational opportunities for worship, fun, and service.

Imagine our youngest and oldest members building relationships with one another and learning from one another.

Imagine what this kind of programming could do for building life-long UU identity, drawing in new comers, helping visitors want to become members, and providing each of us depth and multiple entry points into our faith community.

This is the vision the RE Council and myself are holding for next year. Will you build it with us? There are many opportunities listed to the right for you to learn more, contribute, and determine how you and your family can best participate.

## Building Our Future...

Whether or not you are thrilled with every aspect of the vision, whether or not you have children or youth in the program, whether or not you want to teach or volunteer with children and youth – I want to hear from you. Below are multiple opportunities to come learn more about this vision, add your input, and help lay the foundation.

### Teaching as Small Group Ministry

Come find out what teaching RE will look like in a small group ministry model. If you like the idea of working with children or youth, if you are willing to give us 2 Sundays a month in the classroom, and if you feel called to working to empower our young people, support their families, and help create a generation of UU's join me on **Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm**

### Youth Nights

Do you have a youth 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade? Come learn about our vision for weekly youth programming next year. We know our families are busy, let us share with you why a commitment to this type of programming is good for your youth. Help us create a program you can commit to. While we talk about the philosophy and method of this programming, our youth will be upstairs with our youth advisers having their first youth night. **Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> 5-8pm food provided**

### Building Multigen Opportunities

Do you want to work on crafting multigenerational events, projects, outings, or worship services?

Do you have an interest in helping with social justice projects with all ages?

Email Starr at [dre@uufh.org](mailto:dre@uufh.org)

Let's set up a meeting to talk about your passions and interest in helping support a thriving multigenerational community where we worship, serve, and celebrate together.

The Beacon

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For more

Rev. Jude Geiger, Minister  
Starr Austin, Director of Religious Education  
Richard Hyman, Music Director  
Susie Byrnes, Administrator  
Liza Burby, President

**Today's Editor: Bridgette Nicolini**

**Next Beacon:  
Friday, May 29, 2015**

**\* Beacon Deadline:  
Friday, May 15, 2015**

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