Our Mission:

Grounded in faith, we come together to nurture the soul, inspire hope and bring into being a more just and loving world.

“Wisdom says we are nothing. Love says we are everything. Between these two our life flows.”

—Jack Kornfield
THE DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL GAZETTE IS SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020
Wisdom from the World Religions

From Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael, Senior Co-Minister

In listing the sources for the living tradition of Unitarian Universalism we claim that “wisdom from the world’s religions inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life” – with the understanding that “the world’s religions” here means religions in addition to Judaism and Christianity, which are central to our religious heritage. Here is where our task gets challenging - our work as Unitarian Universalists isn’t to pick and choose the wisdom we like (that would be too easy,) but to cobble together spiritual girders that will support our whole, authentic, growing selves and sometimes the wisdom that is the most challenging for us to embrace is exactly the wisdom we need to hear.

Have you read the Bhagavad Gita, the Sanskrit text that is key to the Hindu tradition, or the Koran, the Islamic scriptures, or the Tao Te Ching from China or the Guru Granth Sahib the principle Sikh scripture? To be literate in all of these traditions would be a challenge, even for someone dedicated to religious studies. Instead, or at least to begin, you may find inspiration in this book, on the Sources of our Faith, compiled by Rev. Kathleen Rolenz, or search the UU Bookstore under theology and traditions to find a text that will suit your interest.

Wisdom is not necessarily gained by adding on more and more knowledge, but wisdom is augmented by knowing where and how to search.

iPonder: Intern Minister Service

From Patricia Patrick, member of the Internship Team

When an Intern Minister arrives at the church, an Intern Service Agreement is created. The agreement is carefully and thoughtfully created by the Intern Minister and the church provides the internship site. Goals and objectives are established to meet the needs and requirements of the Intern Minister. Examples include a Unitarian Universalist belief system, profession competence and academic proficiency.

The Ministerial Internship is meaningful and rich. How can the congregation assist in creating a supportive and well-synchronized relationship? Useful suggestions include:

• Be positive and welcoming—even cheerful!
• Have a conversation and get to know the Intern Minister while also welcoming the Intern’s family.
• Let the Intern Minister know when you liked a sermon, message, etc. and how it was delivered.
• If you feel a need to offer constructive feedback and suggestions, be positive and kindly honest.
• Let the Intern Minister know you are glad the minister is there!
• When the internship ends, let the Intern Minister know you appreciated and enjoyed their time with the congregation.
• And remember the old saying..."If you can’t say anything nice, don’t say anything at all!"

Some interesting facts about the name "Antonia."

• Antonia is an English name meaning “highly praiseworthy.” It also means “She Knows” and “Precious”
• From a Roman Clan name in the 17 Century—Anthony—was associated with the word “Anthos,” meaning “flower.”
• As a name of a woman in the Antonius Family, its meaning is “Priceless,” “Praiseworthy,” and “Beautiful.”
Spiritual Exercise on Wisdom:
The Best Advice You’ve Received

Wisdom is a gift. We pass it on to each other like a precious jewel. Wisdom connects us. It’s not just something we collect to uplift ourselves. It’s something we pass on so we can all make it through together. Or to put it another way, wisdom and kindness are more closely linked than we acknowledge.

To honor this, we’re invited this month to remember the wisdom we’ve received. Here are your instructions: Make time to meditate and reflect on the videos and articles below.

Add Ons:
- Make this exercise richer by asking someone close to you about the best advice they received. Maybe even interview a few folks. It’s not only a great way to help them remember the gifts of wisdom they’ve received, but it’s also a sneaky way for you to get some more great advice passed on to you! :)
- You might also listen to the videos for new wisdom you need to hear. As you watch and listen, ask yourself, “Is any of this advice, the wisdom I need right now?” Must Watch!

1. Best Advice You’ve Received | 0-100: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfsyrNKhNTE
2. The Most Important Lesson You’ve Learned | 0-100: www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2GsSy8LNXg
3. How to Age Gracefully | CBC Radio: www.youtube.com/watch?v=sycgL3Qg_Ak
4. 12 Truths I Learned from Life | Anne Lamott: www.youtube.com/watch?v=X41iulkRqZU

Next Month’s Theme is...Liberation!
Soul Matters for Family Ministry
While many say that wisdom only comes with age, it is possible to help your children live with wisdom and to learn to make wise choices. The following resources help families as they engage the question, What does it mean to be a family of wisdom?

Story To Read Together
THE WISDOM OF YOUR BODY: I AM JAZZ
by Jessica Herthel (Author), Jazz Jennings (Author), Shelagh McNicholas (Illustrator)
(for Transgender Day of Visibility on March 31)
The book can be purchased on Amazon.
Video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=BF5D2IsPfsU

“The story of a transgender child based on the real-life experience of Jazz Jennings, who has become a spokesperson for trans kids everywhere.”
– Amazon

Family Discovery
THE WISDOM OF SIMPLICITY: MAKE A KITE
Option #1: A simple activity is building and flying a kite. You can make one for under $1 out of a plastic garbage bag, two dowels, tape and string. Here are the instructions: www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5Aa3BkCQg. For a group, we recommend making some premeasured templates so the children can use them as a guide to cut their bag to the right shape, instead of measuring it. Reflect on how the building of the kite teaches you the wisdom of careful following of instructions.

Option #2: We recommend this “Color a Sled Kite” as “the best ever for RE kids and young youth!” It allows you to design the image yourself, and it flies well in little wind. Order these beforehand @$7.50. intothewind.com/kites/foil-sled-kites/color-a-sled-kite.html

P.S. There is an inexpensive small box of crayons provided in the kit. We suggest also using permanent markers on the Tyvek surface of the kite for more satisfying graphics.

Family Movie Night Ideas
SONG OF THE SEA
www.commonsensemedia.org/movie-reviews/song-of-the-sea
“.. But what really makes Song of the Sea such a winning and delightful film is its focus on the two siblings, the use of traditional music, and the stories within the story. Ben is the keeper of his mum's stories (all of which are true, we learn), and Saoirse is the keeper of the song that will set the fairy spirits free from their imprisonment. It may sound a bit complicated, but in the context of the movie, even young kids will understand what's going on and how the various stories interconnect.” - Common Sense review.
Theme Connection: There is wisdom in stories. Stories teach us how to live a good life.

For You (Support for Adults as Faith Formation Guides)
THE WISDOM OF PLAY
cdn.communityplaythings.com/-/media/files/cpus/library/training-resources/booklets/wisdom-of-play.pdf?d=20191127T074807Z
Family Ministries—Choosing Your Own Adventure on Sundays

From Lily Rappaport, Developmental Director of Family Ministries

Some congregations have shifted from curriculum-based Sunday classes to Religious Education that offers a variety of program choices each Sunday. Instead of dividing children into classes by ages and grades, this model allows children of different ages with different learning styles and comfort levels to self-select the program which is a good match for them. It also breaks down the silos between the generations and encourages people of all ages to learn together.

RE Choice is a program offered at the Tennessee Valley UU Church. Children, youth and adults can explore and develop their own religious identities and learn about Unitarian Universalism through a variety of freely-chosen experiential spaces. “Choose Your Own Adventure” is a similar model of Religious Education at the UU Church of Nashua, NH. Children choose from a variety of workshops, each having unified opening and closing rituals that provide continuity throughout the program. Workshops in these congregations include some of the following:

- **Helping Hands or Love in Action** (all ages welcome). Service projects allow children and adults to put faith into action and to engage in service within the congregation. Examples include tending to the property, making cards for homebound members, making treats for an animal shelter, and conducting a donation drive.
- **Learning Lab** (suited for grades 3-6, all ages welcome). Creative challenges are offered for those who enjoy making meaning through engaging their imaginations and connecting with others through hands-on projects, science experiments, and exploring nature.
- **Story & Spirit** (suited for K-2, all ages welcome). This space allows for reflection on the interplay between the stories we’ve heard in the sanctuary and in this workshop.
- **Reflection Room** (all ages). This space is intended to be a calming, sensory-friendly space for reflection and renewal, for engaging in spiritual practice and contemplation such as yoga, meditation, singing, prayer beads.
- **The Authentic Connections** Workshop (all ages). This workshop builds connections with worship service. Activities include rehearsing music, writing chalice lightings, and creating worship skits.

**Religious Education Calendar**

- March 1 Grade 4/5 OWL Orientation (1-3pm)
- March 1 All Ages Game Night (5-9pm)
- March 3 RE Committee Meeting 7:30 pm
- March 13-14 Coming of Age Overnight & YSOP in NYC
- March 27-29 MNY Junior High Con at UUCM

**All-Ages Game Night**

Once again, our Religious Education Committee is sponsoring Game Night on Sunday, **March 1, 2020**, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM in Fletcher Hall. Bring your whole family (and your favorite game or craft, if you wish) to share or just hang out and enjoy community. We will order pizza, but please bring any drinks or snacks you may want to share. PLEASE RSVP at tinyurl.com/votgyv56 and tell us how many will attend and what you can bring to share. We will also collect donations of $5 per person for pizza as you RSVP or at the door.
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WITH UUA PROGRAMS AROUND OUR REGION

We are hosting a UUA Middle School CON here at UUCM March 28, 2020! Youth in 6th, 7th or 8th grades spend 24 hours with other UU middle school youth from Metro NY UU congregations area and is filled with games, sports, music and much more. Follow our congregation’s Facebook page for how to register or contact UUCM parent Anneliese Scherfen, our anchor to support middle school youth to learn more about UUA Jr Youth CONS and to help parents get questions answered, at scherf20@gmail.com. Registration page: tinyurl.com/wtdm473.

YAC YAC YAC -- what’s that? YAC is the YOUTH ADULT COMMITTEE of the Metro NY Region of the UUA. YAC is open to all high school youth (and adults) who seek to support youth programming and engagement and support regional learning with working cons, social cons and chaplain training for youth. The next YAC meetings are March 21, 2020 and May 9, 2020. These YAC meetings offer tools for planning events, team building and youth leadership in our region. All are welcome and find out more! www.uua.org/central-east/youth/districtyouth/metro-new-york

OWL (Our Whole Lives) Sexuality Education for Adults

Sex education isn’t just for children and teens -- there’s always more to learn and explore. Join Melanie Davis, PhD and Tuli Patel, PhD on Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 2:00 to 4:30 PM in the Peierls Room for an introductory workshop from Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education for Adults ages 36-49. If sufficient interest exists for Older Adults ages 50+, that curriculum will be offered later in the year. Space is limited to the first 20 participants. To reserve your spot, email: answers@melaniedavisphd.com.

Mortenson Scholarship

Each year, the Mortenson Scholarship Fund awards small education grants to children of UUCM members or members. This fund was established by Dorothy Mortenson, in memory of her husband who was a teacher and is open to persons of all ages who are active members of UUCM. To apply or for info, contact Nicole Rinklin at (201) 615-3786 or nrinklin@gmail.com no later than Sunday, May 10, 2020. The Mortenson Scholarship Awards will be presented at our Flower Communion service on June 21, 2020.

Finding Meaning and Spirit in Aging

Tuesdays, April 21 and May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2020, from 12:30 to 2:00 PM in the Alliance Room. Co-led by Claudia Sanders, Judie Rinerson and Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael, our journey together will traverse the stories and experiences of elders, offering insights into navigating this unique stage of life. Our core text, “In Later Years: Finding Meaning and Spirit in Aging” by UU minister Rev. Bruce Marshall, draws on scores of personal interviews, and provides a felt sense, grounded in real-life accounts, of the challenges and blessings of aging. The book focuses particularly on older seniors—those in their late seventies, eighties, and nineties and serves as an invaluable resource for family members and caregivers, suggesting ways to help, ways to connect, and ways to understand the issues that attend growing old. Every participant will want their own copy of the book; a few are available for you to borrow at UUCM, and can be found on top of the mailboxes outside of the main office. Register at: tinyurl.com/tjbgzop.

Spring Bible Study

Thursdays, March 19 through April 2, 2020, from 7:30 to 9:00 PM in the Peierls Room. Come encounter the Judeo Christian Scriptures through a Unitarian Universalist lens. Rev. Scott will lead an examination of texts addressing Easter and Passover, and dig into similar tales from other religions as well. A good Study Bible will help best with the class, and it is a good thing to add to your library! The NRSV or NIV are two translations we recommend. $10 per person. Register at: tinyurl.com/bible-study.
2020 UUA General Assembly
This year General Assembly is in Providence, Rhode Island, June 24-28, 2020, so we hope that we can bring a few dozen from UUCM to join with 4,000 other UU’s for worship, trainings, workshops, discussing Social Justice priorities, and more. To see the schedule of events, visit: www.uua.org/ga/program/schedule. There is also a short video to view: vimeo.com/386281324.

Revs. Anya and Scott will host a party in Rev. Charles Blustein Orman’s honor at the First Unitarian Church of Providence, where Rev. Charlie served as Interim Minister after leaving UUCM in 2015. The party will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2020, following the Service of the Living Tradition at the First Unitarian Church of Providence, 1 Benevolent Street, Providence, RI 02906. You don’t need to attend GA to attend the party for Rev. Charlie. If you wish to see Charlie ‘walk’ to receive the status of Retired Minister at GA, you would need to register to attend that event. Please contact Rev. Scott (revscott@uumontclair.org) for more information.

Strategic Planning Town Hall
Since last year, the Strategic Planning Task Force has prepared a draft blueprint for the future that is ready to be finalized. Working with dozens of group leaders across all our Ministry Areas we have compiled goals and initiatives that, over the next few years, will help guide us toward reaching our VISION!

What about our congregation is most important to you? The Sunday experience? Covenant groups? Religious education? Social justice? Our historic building?

On Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 1:00 PM in Fletcher Hall, your Strategic Planning Task Force will present the plan for your final review, comment, and suggestion. Come and hear about our voyage to this point but most important, come to take a look and comment on specific ideas for growing and enhancing congregational life. We continue to encourage your input! If you prefer, connect with Matt Silverman (msilverman@paylock.com) or Nancy Franklin (nancyfranklin22@gmail.com) and they will make sure that your voice is heard.

GOVERNANCE

Congregation Begins Ministerial Evaluation Process
From Hal Strelnick, on behalf of the Council on Ministries

In coordination with the Board, the Council on Ministries has launched a process to evaluate our senior co-ministers. The evaluation is part of the Council’s responsibility to examine the effectiveness of our ministries overall. In addition, Revs. Anya and Scott Sammler-Michael have asked to receive formal feedback.

Over the summer, members of the Board and Council formed a Ministerial Evaluation Task Force. Its standing members are the Board President (Sue Raufer), the Board Vice President (Denise Rodgers) and the current and immediate past Chair of the Council on Ministries (Sarah Scalet and Nina Cooke John). The Task Force drafted an evaluation process and form based on documents from the UU Ministers Association, incorporating feedback from the senior co-ministers.

During the fall, the Council finalized the evaluation form. The Likert-style evaluation questions were adjusted to better reflect the six ministries within UUCM and the unique coordination required by the co-ministry. In November 2019, the Board approved the process.

In February, the evaluation form will be distributed to all Board and Council on Ministries members, chairs of key standing committees, and additional, rotating evaluators identified by the senior co-ministers. Recognizing the sensitivity of the information, the Council will assemble the responses and synthesize the feedback. In the spring, the Ministerial Evaluation Task Force will meet with the co-ministers to provide their confidential feedback. Going forward, this will become an annual process.

For more information, contact Sarah Scalet, Chair of the Council on Ministries, at sarah@scalet.me.
Blue Jean Sunday

Blue Jean Sunday is coming on April 26, 2020! It is our day to wear blue jeans to service and then stay to give some time to make UUCM and its grounds really sparkle. This is an annual event and it allows all of us of every age and capability to work together on projects that include raking leaves, weeding, pruning, small paint jobs, cleaning pews and windows AND feeding all our bUUsy bees a delicious, nutritious lunch.

Here is how it works: Sign up at Connection Cafe during Sundays in March and April. You can choose what project to work on, what tools you should bring, and which session you are volunteering for (Session 1 is from 10:30 AM to 12 Noon, and Session 2 is from 12:30 to 2:00 PM). Lunch is served for all workers. Just sign up and come to Fletcher Hall on BJS (with the tools that you have brought for your project), and you will be given instructions on how to proceed. Persons of all ages are encouraged to participate, but young children must be accompanied by an adult who will work with the child. All consumable materials required will be furnished, but each person should bring their own tools if tools are required for the project of choice.

Blue Jean Sunday is sponsored by the Religious Education Program and the work projects are organized by the Buildings and Grounds Committee. This is a really fun event, so let us know that you’re coming so that we can plan adequately. Email dfm@uumontclair.org for more information.

UU Marketplace News

Supermarket Gift Cards: Your normal grocery trips offer an easy way to also support UUCM. Shoprite and Kings grocery store gift cards can be purchased (cash or check only please) any Sunday during Connection Cafe. Shopping with gift cards helps the congregation make money while not taking any additional money from you. Buying a $20 gift card costs you the same amount, $20, and you can use that gift card at the store on your regular grocery shopping trip. Please consider taking this simple step to support our congregation’s programming!

The UU Marketplace committee is trying to recruit additional members. Members simply commit to one hour of volunteer service each month. If you have been thinking about getting involved at church but feel you just don’t have time, this might be the committee for you.

For more information or to volunteer please visit the Marketplace table at Connection Cafe.

Shopping on Amazon!

Did you know you can support UUCM by shopping on Amazon? If you can’t find what you need locally, visit the following link: www.uumontclair.org/amazon, and 4% or more of your total purchase amount will go towards supporting UUCM. Amazon recently donated $105.87 to the UUCM!
Engaging In Stewardship
How do we as individuals act as Stewards and engage in Stewardship at UUCM? Stewardship is defined as the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care. We act as Stewards through our donations and volunteering. Stewardship at its best transforms individuals and congregations by opening us to new levels of generosity and prosperity. This process, in turn, promotes spiritual growth and maturity individually and congregationally.

We place a high value on diversity in our congregation, including diversity of economic circumstances. We all support our congregation at our financial level - We are all Stewards.

We express the transformation in our lives, and our gratitude, through inspired giving so we are fully equipped to live our Mission and achieve our Vision.

The accompanying chart shows how your generous Pledging is allocated to ensure our Stewardship is grounded in our faith principles and beliefs.

Thank you for your support,
Stewardship Committee

| 2019-2020 Budget |
|Personnel Costs $483,509 |
|Facilities $112,138 |
|Office Administration $52,809 |
|Worship & Spirituality $12,500 |
|Religious Education $5,500 |
|Social Justice $18,450 |
|Denomination $37,016 |

Seasons of Life Fund
The Seasons of Life Fund is an outlet for self-expression at the milestone moments of life: the birth of a child, the death of a parent, a dear friend’s benchmark birthday. The Seasons of Life Fund accepts donations in any amount to be used toward programs and services that fulfill our mission. Please contact our Administrator Danielle Carlo at admin@uumontclair.org for more information.
FAQ’S

How do I schedule a meeting with a minister?
Contact Rev. Scott and Intern Antonia directly. To schedule a meeting with Rev. Anya please use this application: calendly.com/revanya.

How do I submit an announcement?
For Sunday announcements, all requests need to be sent to our Office & Communications Manager Jaclyn Puleo (officemgr@uumontclair.org) by Wednesday. We also send out our weekly email blast on Wednesday. All announcements are included in the blast and also added to our website and social media pages. UUCM-related events take precedence over outside events but we do our best to accommodate all requests.

Where can I park?
Although we do not have our own parking lot, there are several parking options within easy walking distance. Visit: en.parkopedia.com/ for an interactive map. There is parking available next door for an all-day Sunday price of $5. Parking is also permitted at metered spots on the street and is free after 7:00 PM and on Sunday. The driveway at UUCM is reserved for employees during the week and on Sunday for those needing handicapped access ONLY.

Can I get a Member Directory?
If you are a member, you can access the UUCM directory via Realm. If you are not currently on Realm, please let us know when any changes are made to your address, phone number, and/or email address so we have the most current information.

Can I get some photocopies made for my committee?
We will be more than happy to make copies for your UUCM-related committee, group or event. Since the staff is most familiar with our machines, we ask that you submit all requests to the office during regular office hours.

How do I make a monetary donation to UUCM?
Checks may be made out to UUCM. Please use the memo line to indicate to us your intentions (i.e., Annual Pledge, Plate Collection, MESH). You can also make donations via electronic funds transfer (EFT).

How do I submit a reimbursement request?
All requests must come from the head of your committee or group and be received a week in advance of need. Submit your receipts to your committee leader and have them contact the Administrator.

Who Should I Contact?
Oftentimes, many members confuse the duties of our Administrator Danielle Carlo and our Office & Communications Manager Jaclyn Puleo. We’ve created this helpful chart below that can help clarify our duties. And as always, please reach out to us if you have any questions.
On That Note...
From Markus Grae-Hauck, Director of Music Ministries

Some five years ago, when my wife Laurice was working for the UU Legislative Ministry of New Jersey (since then rebranded as NJ FaithAction), she envisioned an event where the choirs of the UU congregations in New Jersey would come together to share music and friendship. That idea became a reality on March 8th, 2015, in a concert at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship. Since then, the event has taken place at a different UU congregation in our state each year. And now it is our turn to host it! Please mark your calendars for Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 2:00 PM. Each group will share some of their own repertoire, and at the end all will join in a joyful noise. All proceeds from the event will go to the Montclair Emergency Services for the Homeless (MESH). Come to hear some inspiring music and to support a worthy cause!

Listening, Honing and Celebrating Your Call
Are you considering or pursuing theological education? Are you already a minister? Are you wondering how to live your call? Join us on the remaining dates at 1:00 PM at Revs. Anya & Scott’s home in Montclair:

March 29, 2020—“How will my relationship to our congregation change if I pursue ordained ministry?”
June 14, 2020—“How do I serve our congregation best with my ministry?”

Guided by deep questions and honest reflections, we will help one another listen more deeply to the stirrings that call us to serve our faith. RSVP at: tinyurl.com/y46rhwy2 to secure your space.

UUCM Sacred Wheel (CUUPS)

There will be a Moon Magick discussion/workshop on Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 12:45 PM in the Rotunda. Come share what you know about moon magick, which phases of the moon are best for the results you want?

Sacred Wheel will also host an Ostara ritual to celebrate the Spring Equinox on Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 12:45 PM in the Rotunda. The Northern spring equinox, which falls on Thursday, March 19, divides the light and dark halves of the year. Ostara is a commonly used name for the holiday, and the root word of Easter, from which Easter got its name.

Events are free of charge. Light refreshments will be provided. Nonperishable food donations for the local food pantry are requested. For more information, contact sacredwheel-cuups@uumontclair.org. UUCM Sacred Wheel is also on Facebook at: facebook.com/groups/UUCMSacredWheel.

Passover Seder
Our Passover Seder will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2020, at 6:00 PM in Fletcher Hall.

Let’s get together for an evening to celebrate our freedom and the hope of emancipation of all peoples! Food, drink and a wonderful Passover service will help us reflect together about our past and to think about our future. All are welcome! We need specific food donations and assistance from all who participate. The cost is $15 per adult (ages 13 & up) and $6 per child (ages 5 thru 12).

Please RSVP at tinyurl.com/uucm-seder no later than April 6, 2020.
Using Realm: Help us Communicate Safely and Effectively with One Another

Realm is our current database and communication tool. Here are some answers to some commonly asked questions:

- **Is Realm Safe?** Realm is safer than email and you have the power to manage your own privacy. Watch this video to learn more: [player.vimeo.com/video/176604542](player.vimeo.com/video/176604542)

- **How do I begin?** Contact our Administrator Danielle Carlo at admin@uumontclair.org to activate your profile and create a password.

- **What's next?** If you want to login on the web go to: onrealm.org/uumontclair.

- **Can I use Realm on my phone?** Yes! Download the Realm Connect application to your phone.

- **Why do I want to use Realm?** You can keep up with congregational news, learn about and join groups, and manage your giving. You can also register for Religious Education and congregational events on Realm.

- **What if I don't want to receive so many emails?** Change your email setting to “Nothing” and then click “On” for the daily digest. That way you will only receive one digest email daily, where you can choose what, if anything you want to read.

- **What else can you tell me?** Email Danielle at admin@uumontclair.org and she will send you a comprehensive guide to using Realm or you can visit: tinyurl.com/ugh57du.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

**Newcomer Connections**

Our Newcomer Connections will be held on Sunday, **March 1, 2020** from 12:30 to 1:30 PM in the Alliance Room. A Membership Team member will be present at the Welcome Table to meet guests. You will know them by the "Newcomer’s Connection" sign. Are you new to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair? Are you visiting or "Congregation Shopping" for yourself or your family? Do you want to know a bit more about our congregation and the Unitarian Universalist tradition? Join with one of our ministers and other newcomers to for a short, honest, in-depth conversation. All of your questions will be honored. Childcare is available in our Nursery. Children age 12 and above are welcome to participate. Please RSVP to our Administrator Danielle Carlo (admin@uumontclair.org) if you wish to attend.

**New Member Covenant Group**

Brand New to UUCM, or new in the past few years? Join a welcoming group of other newcomers for a New Member Covenant Group co-facilitated by members Tym Kaywork, Andrew Magioncalda along with Rev. Anya. This group is for new members and visitors who wish to know the congregation better. Please contact Rev. Anya (revanya@uumontclair.org) for more information.

**Pathway to Membership Class**

Join us on **April 4, 2020** from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Rotunda as we deepen our understanding of the intricacies of the UU tradition as well as the complexity of our congregational life. This class is your path to becoming a member and joining UUCM. Childcare will be available. Please RSVP to our Administrator Danielle Carlo (admin@uumontclair.org) if you wish to attend.

**New Member Signing Ceremony**

We will be having a signing ceremony on Sunday, **April 5, 2020**. Those wishing to join UUCM are invited to contact Rev. Anya (revanya@uumontclair.org). Membership at UUCM is available to those who have participated in the Pathways to Membership class or another comparable learning experience. We also extend an invitation to those who have joined UUCM but have yet to be recognized in a public ceremony.
Connection Café
Connection Café is our weekly gathering held between services in Fletcher Hall. Each Sunday, a different group or committee will be our Connection Café host. We have a SignUp Genius page which lists our upcoming hosts. By scheduling hosts this way, all of our groups have an opportunity to use Connection Café to popularize their activities, and all of us share the responsibility as equally as possible. If you are a part of these groups and need to swap a date or need financial reimbursement, please contact Nicole Gray.

Easy to follow instructions for set-up, coffee making, clean-up and running the sanitizer are all posted in the kitchen to make your Connection Café volunteer experience comfortable.

Our upcoming hosts for March are:
3/1 - Undoing Racism Committee and Susie Roman Luna in honor of her son and recognition of Down Syndrome Awareness Month
3/8 - Women’s Group
3/15 - Wednesday Lunch Bunch
3/22 - Care Team and Crazy QUUilters
3/29 - Food Diplomacy Covenant Group

Tables for Groups at Connection Café
1. The tables are first come first serve. Arrive early and claim your table. There are sign up sheets in the kitchen. Please do not move the tables after they are set up.
2. Find table signs for all of our groups and committees in the kitchen. Look on the Connection Café shelves in the corner. Find your sign and place it in a plastic sign holder. Then put your sign on a table.
3. Please share your table with at least one other group - it’s fun, and saves space!
4. When you finish, return your sign to the shelves in the corner of the kitchen.

Enjoy connecting with our beautiful congregation! Feel free to contact Nicole Gray, John Lytle or Carol McGough at connectioncafe@uumontclair.org if you have any questions.

UUCM Communications Team
The UUCM Communications Team is looking for interested members to volunteer on our team. Team members take on projects according to their own interests, abilities and availability and collectively make decisions that affect our life together as a congregation. Some projects are helping other committees and groups write press releases, create flyers and ads, and help maintain the FB community group.

We meet for an hour or so, generally once a month on a Sunday at 12:30 PM.

If you are interested in joining the team, please email Deborah Ann Tripoldi via communicationsteam@uumontclair.org.
Our Monthly MESH Collection

Montclair Emergency Services for the Homeless (MESH) is a local, faith-based organization dedicated to providing basic and essential services to Montclair’s most vulnerable homeless adults and families. When there is a month with 5 Sundays there will be just one Offering collection at each service, and MESH will get the entire collection. Our next 5th Sunday collection will be on March 29, 2020. Every penny received is used to buy food for the guests. No exceptions. Thank you so much to everyone who contributes to UUCM MESH via the UU collection, donations in honor or memory of an event or person, or out of extreme generosity. For more information, please contact David Bronstein (dbbronst@gmail.com).
News from our Undoing Racism Committee

From Jane Gaertner, Chair, Undoing Racism Committee

Women’s History Month Event to Celebrate Women of Color
The Undoing Racism Committee invites you to our annual luncheon in honor of women of color during Women’s History Month on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 1:30 PM in Fletcher Hall—“PowHer: Women Leaders of Color in Arts, Business and Social Justice” a panel of local women of color whose power and influence inspire! Sponsored by the Undoing Racism Committee at UUCM and co-sponsored by UUCM Men’s Group and UUCM Women’s Group, our panelists include Dr. Jessica Valiente, Sharron Miller and Genesis Whitlock. Please see our flyer on the following page. RSVP: tinyurl.com/URC-WomensHistory or email uucmurc@gmail.com for more information. If you can volunteer to help at event, please sign up here: www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e48afac22aa8.powher.

An Opportunity to Work on Racism in Our Individual Lives
The Unitarian Universalist Association is studying an 8th Principle. It’s a big deal. The Rev. Paula Cole Jones, Director of Racial and Social Justice of UUA’s Central East Region, developed this idea. After working with UU congregations for many years, she realized that a person can believe they were being a “good UU” and following the seven principles without thinking about or dealing with racism and other oppressions at the systemic level. Rev. Jones, with fellow UU Bruce Pollack-Johnson, drafted an 8th Principle stating “We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”

Although neither the UUA nor our congregation has not yet adopted the 8th Principle, we can still endeavor to “accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.” One effort in that endeavor is our upcoming series, White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism, a book discussion. This discussion group gives white people the tools to challenge the construct of race, understanding and responding to microaggressions when confronted, and practice doing that.

The book discussion will be held in Peierls Room on Thursdays, April 30, May 7, 14, 2020 from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Members of the URC will facilitate the discussion using a combination of the official Beacon Press & UUA discussion guides. Register at tinyurl.com/URC-WF. Join other UUs to have deep discussions about racism. DiAngelo writes, “… If we want to challenge this construct, we must make an honest accounting of how it is manifest in our own lives and in the society around us.”
ANNUAL WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

powHer:
Women Leaders of Color in Arts, Business and Social Justice

a powHer wisdom sharing panel

Dr. Jessica Valiente is a flutist, bandleader, and scholar and performs internationally. She specializes in Afro-Cuban, Latin styles, jazz and early music and is on the faculty at The New School.

Sharron Miller is the founder and executive director of the Sharron Miller Academy of Performing Arts-SMAPA. She is a former Alvin Alley American Dance Theater soloist and a veteran of Broadway musicals.

Genesis Whitlock is a junior at Montclair High School. She is President of the Youth Council of the Montclair NAACP Chapter, active in the Center for Social Justice, and a future world leader.

Sunday, March 15, 2020
1:30 pm Luncheon 2-3:30 pm Program

Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair (UUCM)
Undoing Racism Committee
67 Church Street, Montclair, NJ

RSVP: https://tinyurl.com/URC-WomensHistory uumontclair.org

Co-sponsored by UUCM Men’s Group and UUCM Women’s Group

Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair
Care Team Ministry

We are looking for congregational help in identifying members who are in need of support. If you know of someone who has been missing from the services for a while, please forward the information to Arlene Marin at arlenemarin@hotmail.com, with CTM in the subject, so the team can follow up. If you are in need of support or know of someone who could benefit from the services the Care Team provides, please contact Arlene.

Looking for Volunteer Opportunities? The UU Care Team Ministry is a wonderful way to do service and help out your fellow UU's.

If you are interested in volunteering with this ministry or need help, such as a call, visit, a ride or meal, please do not hesitate to contact:
Arlene Marin, Chair, at 973-768-9121 (voice or text) or arlenemarin@hotmail.com
Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael at 973-744-6276, ext.0011 or at revanya@uumontclair.org.
Rev. Scott Sammler-Michael at 973-744-6276, ext.0011 or at revscott@uumontclair.org.

Rev. Anya is the point of contact for our Care Team Ministries, but both Revs. Anya and Scott are available for pastoral care.

Covenant Groups at UUCM

Covenant Groups are small groups of members and friends of our congregation that gather monthly for spiritual, intellectual and emotional deepening. These groups help our friends and members build a sense of community at our congregation while empowering each participant individually.

Covenant Groups meet monthly and generally use the following structure: chalice lighting with a short reading from a UU source, about 45 minutes for members to check in, introduction of the topic and discussion, likes and wishes to guide in shaping the next meeting, and closing words. Our current groups include: New Members, Short Fiction, Poetry, Food Diplomacy, Art and Soul, and Our Positive Place.

Our Soul Matters Covenant Groups meet monthly and consider the theme of the month and to share personal reflections of our respective life journeys relative to each theme.

- **Monday Nighters** meets the first Monday at 7:30 in Glen Ridge.
  Contact Sarah Scalet, sarah@scalet.me.
- **Mirrors and Windows** meets the second Tuesday at 7:00 in Montclair.
  Contact Nancy Franklin, family@franklin512.org.
- **Wednesday Nighters** meets the third Wednesday at 7:30 in Montclair (thru June 2020).
  Contact Deb Ellis, debellisni@gmail.com.

Please consider signing up to engage in a Covenant Group at UUCM. Explore our existing Identity Covenant Groups by visiting: [www.uumontclair.org/community/covenant-groups/](http://www.uumontclair.org/community/covenant-groups/) or contact Claudia Sanders at claudiasanders18@gmail.com.
Ongoing Groups at UUCM

Below are our groups that meet on a regular basis and their upcoming meeting dates.

The Oneness Blessing is a sacred and relaxing meditation experience that brings greater peace, joy, and connection with all life. A brief introduction and talk will be followed by a guided meditation and the blessing. We meet on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Rotunda. Our next meeting will be on **March 2, 2020**. Contact Brad Hyson (giantsmileb@gmail.com, 401-575-9973) for info.

The Wednesday Lunch Bunch (formerly known as Senior Lunch Bunch) meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 12 Noon to 1:30 PM in the Mortenson Room (bring your own lunch). Our next meetings will be on **March 11 & 25, 2020**. Our meetings focus on simply sharing general conversation about things that we have done recently and things going on around us. Remember, all UU’s and their friends are welcome; there are no age constraints on participation. For more information, contact Gary Sanderson at (973) 857-3447.

Our UUCM Women’s Group meets on the second Saturday of the month at UUCM. Our next meeting is Saturday, **March 14, 2020** from 8:30 to 10:30 AM in the Alliance Room. Are you looking for spiritual depth, or to meet other members of the congregation with questions about male identity and roles? Then please join us at the Men's Group monthly meeting where we discuss what is important in our lives with spirit, depth and humor in a confidential environment. Coffee and snacks provided. All men are welcome. Contact Christian Turek (cpaturek@gmail.com) for information.

The Younger Adults Group meet on the third Sunday of each month to celebrate each other's company, chat about the unique challenges of being a younger adult in this era, and practice our faith together. Our next meeting will be on **March 15, 2020** from 2:00 to 5:30 PM in the Mortenson Room. Welcoming all UUCM Members ages 20-35. Hope to see you there! Email: bridgett.kallinger@gmail.com for info.

Our Grief Support Group provides a caring and confidential environment that allows its members to share their experiences with others around their loss. We all experience losses throughout our lifetime, whether they are a loss of loved ones, others important to us, or important parts of our lives. The group is facilitated by an experienced group leader and participation guidelines are provided. The group meets on the third Monday of each month between 6:30 PM and 8:00 PM in the Alliance Room at UUCM. Our next meeting will be on **March 16, 2020**. Please call Dick Kessler @ 973-890-1039 (e-mail: dick@dickkesslerphd.com) for info.

The Crazy QUUilters meet in the Rotunda on the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Rotunda. Our next meeting will be on **March 21, 2020**. The work done by the Crazy QUUilters brings joy to the creators and the recipients. Among our current projects are lap quilts lovingly made for UUCM members as a warm reminder of our congregation’s thoughts and prayers. We have also decided to offer the companionship of our monthly meetings to other crafters. If you knit, crochet or do other hand work you are welcome to join us for about 4 hours of shared creating. The workshop is open to all willing hands (previous experience not required) and includes a potluck lunch. Pictured here is the quilt that was offered in this year’s live auction. For info, contact Arlene at (973) 748-9194 or arlenemarin@hotmail.com.

New Life Transitions Group: A job promotion, a new baby, an unexpected health diagnosis, downsizing a residence... throughout our lives we experience transitions to different realities. Wouldn’t it be nice to have a safe place to talk about those changes with others? Would you welcome hearing from those who have been in similar situations? This group will be facilitated by experienced leaders, Abby and Dick Kessler and is open to all UUCM adult members and friends. Starting on **April 19, 2020**, we will meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month in the Alliance Room from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Please contact Abby Kessler at abbydk58@gmail.com for more information.
Laurice Grae-Hauck lit a candle of remembrance for Ann Marie Parker who died on February 19, 2020 after a 3 year battle with breast cancer. A Special Education teacher, she was the warmest person she knew. Laurice also lit a candle of remembrance and honor for the Potowatamie, Missouri, Kickapoo and Mississippi tribes, all native to the area surrounding the Kansas City Arrowhead Stadium. There is no federally reserved native land in the state of Missouri.

Wayne Foti lit a candle of sorrow for his roommate Joseph Alston who passed away on February 18, 2020. "He was an African-American World War II hero and I miss him so much." Wayne also lit a candle of hope and concern; may our senators follow the rule of law and do the right thing on February 5, 2020; a republic if we can keep it.

We lit a candle of remembrance for a moment in Unitarian history. This month in 1468 the first act of religious toleration, the Edict of Torda, was signed by King John II Sigismund. We also lit a candle of remembrance for a moment in American history. 55 years ago on February 21 Malcolm X was assassinated in the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem.

Jill and David Beckman-Gaynes lit a candle of remembrance for their son, Solomon Wing Beckman-Gaynes, who was stillborn three years ago. Sweet Sol, though you lived but a moment here on Earth, you live on forever in our hearts.

Judith Lin Hunt lit a candle of support for her friend, Iria Jones, who is coping with the loss of her sister Erna, and who is providing care and comfort for Erna's two daughters.

Dan Silver lit a candle of prayer for David Chapin, a member of this congregation growing up. He is facing challenges in his health living abroad. Thoughts, prayers and love are sent his way.

Trixie Kioko lit a candle of hope. After multiple miscarriages, her friend Rachel has conceived again. May her pregnancy be helpful and lifted by our love. Trixie and Jeremy Kamps also lit a candle of love for Jerome Kamps. 5 years ago Jerome passed away and today they feel him in the birth of his grandson, Remy Kioko Kamps.

We lit a candle for all of those who are pained in the witness of our national ills. Our broken government that is set on denying its own best interests, set on turning a blind eye to corruption and turning its back on climate change. We lit this candle to remind ourselves that light remains amidst the darkness.

Andrew Galinsky lit a candle for his brother-in-law, Thomas Robinson, just 67, who passed away on January 27 after suffering from ALS, and for Andrew's sister Phoebe, who nursed and comforted Thomas throughout, and is now grieving the loss of her best friend and husband of 44 years.

Laura Thomas lit a candle for Marilyn Thomas, her mother, who died after a long battle with emphysema. She died in her sleep with two of her five children beside her.

Lou Dodge lit a candle of concern for Eleanor Ferrara Lawler who is dealing with a recurrence of an illness and currently being treated in the hospital. Please keep Eleanor in your thoughts.

Steve Crooks lit a candle of sorrow for Steve's friend and teammate, Namika Patel, upon the sudden passing of her beloved husband. Wishing peace, consolation and healing to her and her family.

Judie Rinearson and Nick Lewis lit a candle in the spirit of adventure as they embarked on a 6-week visit to Sydney, Australia and Singapore.

Chelsea Showalter lit a candle for her dad, Clayton Vaughn, who was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and had surgery on February 7, 2020.

Val Ramshur lit a candle of remembrance for dance educator and choreographer, Roberta Bristol, an important early mentor to her family. Rest in peace; a beautiful, full life.

We are saddened by the sudden passing of UUCM member Melissa Mintz on February 1, 2020. She was surrounded by her loving family. Our prayers go out to Steven and their family.

Deborah Ann Tripoldi lit a candle of hope that her dad tries to accept that she goes to UUCM and at least leaves her alone; that he will be ok with her going to GA in June.

Patrick Preblick lit a candle of healing and strength for Erin Preblick. Please keep good thoughts for Erin as she underwent knee surgery on January 29, 2020. She's going to be fine but has a long road of physical therapy and strength-building ahead.

UUCM Meeting & Events MARCH 2020

Sun Mar 1, 2020
12:30pm - 2pm Our Positive Place Covenant Group Mortenson
1pm - 3pm 4/5 OWL Parent Orientation Peierls, Rotunda
1pm - 2:30pm Strategic Planning Team Fletcher Hall
5pm - 9pm All Ages Game Night Hosted by the RE Committee Fletcher Hall

Mon Mar 2, 2020
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda
7pm - 9pm Oneness Blessing Rotunda
7:30pm - 9pm Monday Nighters Offsite in Glen Ridge

Tue Mar 3, 2020
6pm - 9pm Social Justice Coalition Fletcher Hall
7pm - 8:30pm Budget Committee Meeting Rotunda
7pm - 8:30pm Emergency Preps Meeting Mortenson
7:30pm - 9pm RE Comm Peierls
7:30pm - 9pm Strategic Planning Team Alliance

Wed Mar 4, 2020
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda
5:15pm - 6pm MESH Cafe (Volunteers) Fletcher Hall
6pm - 8:30pm MESH Cafe (Guests) Fletcher Hall
7:30pm - 9pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thu Mar 5, 2020
6:30pm - 8:50pm Collaborative Worship Workshop Sanctuary, Peierls
6:45pm - 8:15pm New Member Covenant Group IV Alliance

Fri Mar 6, 2020
7pm - 9pm Women’s Group Moves Monthly

Sun Mar 8, 2020
All day Justice Sunday
10:30am and 12:15pm Talk and Tour Narthex
12:15pm - 1:15pm Out Front Alliance
12:30pm - 2pm Ministerial Intern Committee Meeting Mortenson
12:30pm - 2pm Sacred Wheel CUUPS Rotunda

Mon Mar 9, 2020
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda
7:30pm - 9pm UU Dream Group Rotunda

Tue Mar 10, 2020
6pm - 9pm Council On Ministries- Lay leaders only Mortenson
7:30pm - 9pm DRE Search team Peierls
7:30pm - 9pm Music Committee Rotunda
7:30pm - 9pm NLDC Alliance

Wed Mar 11, 2020
12pm - 1:30pm Wednesday Lunch Bunch Mortenson
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda
5:15pm - 6pm MESH Cafe (Volunteers) Fletcher Hall
6pm - 8:30pm MESH Cafe (Guests) Fletcher Hall
7:30pm - 9pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:30pm - 8:45pm Covenant Group Facilitators Alliance

Thu Mar 12, 2020
7pm - 8:30pm Membership Committee Mortenson
7:30pm - 9pm Finance Team Meeting Peierls

Fri Mar 13, 2020
6pm - 12am KSOP Overnight Peierls, Rotunda, Mortenson

Sat Mar 14, 2020
8:30am - 10:30am UU Men’s Group Alliance
2pm - 4:30pm Adult OWL Peierls

Sun Mar 15, 2020
12:30pm - 1:30pm URC prep Alliance
1:30pm - 5:30pm URC Women’s History Month Event Fletcher Hall, Alliance
2pm - 5pm UU Young Adults Meeting Mortenson

Mon Mar 16, 2020
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda
6:30pm - 8pm Grief Support Group Alliance

Tue Mar 17, 2020
7:30pm - 9:30pm UUCM Board Meeting Peierls

Wed Mar 18, 2020
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda
5:15pm - 6pm MESH Cafe (Volunteers) Fletcher Hall
6pm - 8:30pm MESH Cafe (Guests) Fletcher Hall
7pm - 8:30pm Earth Justice Team Mortenson
7:30pm - 9pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Sat Mar 21, 2020
10:30am - 2pm Crazy QUilts Peierls
12pm - 2pm MUUsifest rehearsal
2pm - 4pm 6th Annual NJ MUUsifest 2020

Sun Mar 22, 2020
Children’s Chapel
12:45pm - 2pm Ostara (spring equinox) Rotunda

Mon Mar 23, 2020
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda

Tue Mar 24, 2020
7:30pm - 9pm DRE Search Team Peierls

Wed Mar 25, 2020
12pm - 1:30pm Wednesday Lunch Bunch Mortenson
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda
5:15pm - 6pm MESH Cafe (Volunteers) Fletcher Hall
6pm - 8:30pm MESH Cafe (Guests) Fletcher Hall
7:30pm - 9pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thu Mar 26, 2020
7:15pm - 9:15pm New Member Covenant Group V Alliance

Fri Mar 27, 2020
Start MNY Junior High Con

Sun Mar 29, 2020
MESH Sunday
12:30pm - 1:30pm Comm Team Meeting Rotunda
1pm - 2:30pm Listening, Honing, and Celebrating Your Call- Minister’s House

Mon Mar 30, 2020
3pm - 6pm After School Tutoring Program Mortenson, Rotunda

Tue Mar 31, 2020
7:30pm - 9:15pm Special Board Meeting to Review Budget Peierls Room

Visit www.uumontclair.org/calendar/ for more info and events.
MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE
A Month of *Wisdom*
SUNDAYS SERVICES ARE AT 9:30 & 11:15 AM

**March 1, 2020**
“*Who Has Seen the Wind*”
Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael

**March 8, 2020**
“*Ancestor Wisdom*”
Intern Minister Antonia Bell-Delgado

**March 15, 2020**
“*Youthful Sages*”
Rev. Anya and Rev. Scott Sammler-Michael

**March 22, 2020**
"*Liberating the Lost Souls*"
Rev. Karen G. Johnston

**March 29, 2020**
“*Muslim Women Mystics*”
Rev. Scott Sammler-Michael