

The Chalice Light

Vol. 45, Issue 10

November, 2016



November, 2016 Calendar

All events are held at the UUCRT unless otherwise noted. Italicized events are not UU sponsored but may be of interest to congregants.

UUCRT Qigong will no longer be on the calendar as an ongoing scheduled program. If you intend on coming to morning qigong, please call (845) 562-1911 Saturday evening to verify availability.

Nov. 1, Tuesday – 7 p.m. *Orange County Psychic Experiences Group*

Nov. 5, Saturday – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Spiritual Arts and Holiday Craft Fair at Toleman Elementary School.
--5-8:30 p.m. Evening dinner and musical meditation (including concert, labyrinth walk and sound bath) at UUCRT

Nov. 6, Sunday – 12:15 p.m. Soul Matters Sharing Circle with Rev. Chris
– 1 p.m. *Veterans For Peace, Hudson Valley Chapter 177.*
-- 2-5 p.m. Core Stories, a veteran/civilian facilitated event.

Nov. 12, Saturday – 7:30 p.m. *Hudson Valley Folk Guild Coffee House*

Nov. 13, Sunday – 9:30 a.m. Learn songs before services with Hollis Kellogg and Terri Pahucki
-- Noon: Potluck luncheon
-- 12:15 p.m. Soul Matters Sharing Circle with Terri
-- 12:15 p.m. Social Action Ministry meeting

Nov. 18, Saturday – 7 p.m. Film and discussion series, “Making a Killing: Guns, Greed and the NRA”

Nov. 20, Sunday – 8:30 a.m. New to the UU Breakfast
– 11:45 a.m. Fall Congregational Meeting

Nov. 25, Friday – Noon to 4 p.m. Trash to Treasure event

Nov. 27, Sunday --12:30 p.m. Board of Trustees

Sunday Services

Our Sunday services are held at 9 Vance Rd, Rock Tavern, NY at 10:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted. *While we make every intention to publish an accurate calendar, topics may be subject to change. Please consult uucrt.org for the most up-to-date listings. We welcome all seekers regardless of age, creed, race, ability/disability, class, sexual orientation, and gender identity.*

Nov. 6: Rev. Chris J. Antal
Core Stories

The stories we tell about ourselves create the meaning we seek.

Nov. 13: Terri Pahucki
The Whole Story

Let us explore the ability of stories to empower and transform us.

Nov. 20: Rev. Chris J. Antal
Our Story

A brief homily by Rev. Chris followed by the fall congregational meeting.

Nov. 27: Bill Domanico
Leftovers

In this month of Story, let's share what Thanksgiving means to us. How do we interpret the holiday? Also let's share fond Thanksgiving memories--and disasters. Bring a votive candle to light for someone you wish was here for Thanksgiving.

Letter from the Board of Trustees

Dear Members and Friends –

I'm sorry to inform you that our loyal president and stalwart friend and advocate, Mike McGinn, has fallen ill and therefore has resigned his post on the Board of Trustees. The Board has asked me to take on the task as temporary president in his place until June 2017, and I've accepted the assignment. I join the rest of the Board in wishing Mike a speedy recovery.

Meanwhile, there is much to do for our congregation this month. The Spiritual Arts Fair is this Saturday and we need you all to attend and participate – there are many tasks available and I'm sure you can find one that suits your spirit and desire to contribute!

Then, on November 20, we will have our traditional Fall Congregational Meeting to hear reports from the committees, (I mean the ministries!) and make plans for the coming year. We will be moving to a different fiscal year, and there are other exciting and important changes you will want to hear about – so be sure to mark your calendar for this most vital of meetings!

I'm looking forward to seeing you all on Sunday, November 20 when we will chart a new course forward together. This will be an historic event in the life of our beloved community that I'm sure you won't want to miss!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,
Mike Landrum

From Your Minister

The story of Waitstill and Martha Sharp has touched and inspired many of us in recent months. The Ken Burns production of *Defying the Nazis: The Sharps War* which PBS broadcast nationwide in September brought the story into our homes and hearts.

The story reached a national audience and beyond. PBS has reported 1.5 billion impressions (the number of times a post or ad is displayed) of ads for the film and the curriculum, *We Who Defy Hate*. PBS is in negotiations with their international counterparts, and, so far, the film will be shown next year in Brazil, Israel, and the UK.

Sharon Welch, who serves with me on the UU Peace Ministry Network Leadership Team, has been involved in the film and curriculum project from her position of Provost and Professor of Religion and Society at Meadville Lombard Theological School.

She stressed recently the key message of both projects: the film is being used to spur creative responses to the current refugee crisis. The focus is not the Sharps per se.

Stories like *Defying the Nazis* connect us to our past and the larger narrative that is Unitarian Universalism. They remind us of our identity. They remind us of who we are. They ground us in our common history and heritage and guide our actions in the present—if we let them. They remind us that our neighbors are the people who need us most, no matter where they live.

I'm proud to be a steward of a noble heritage embodied by people like Waitstill and Martha Sharp, a



heritage of extending radical hospitality to displaced peoples and promoting justice and compassion among the suffering. Given the conditions of our world, and the mounting refugee crisis in our time, I am also daunted and challenged.

As your minister I am expanding our outreach and community partnerships as a member of the Mid-Hudson Refugee Solidarity Alliance. What will be our creative response? What story do we wish to write about ourselves?

In service,
Chris J. Antal

A Message from the Lay Commissioned Minister

What does it mean to be a community of story? November's theme connects us. Each of us carries our own individual and family stories; and we are invited to unite in religious community to tell a new story together-- a story that empowers us to reach out in love to the world.

I believe that our Sunday gatherings-- our celebration of life, or worship-- are the center of Unitarian Universalist community. This is the time we get to tell and make meaning of our story. At our last General Assembly this past June, my daughter and I attended a multi-generational workshop called "Faith Formation through Storytelling". The focus of this workshop was how to bring worship to life through story. Telling and enacting a good story can help people of all ages find meaning. This is a feature I hope to include more of in the services that I share with you. If you like to tell or act out stories, I invite you to join me.

There are many ways we can help bring our Sunday morning services to life. One way I would like to invite you to consider is by sharing the gift of song. Songs are the lifeblood of every culture; they tell a people's story. For me, singing with others has always been an integral part of my life: I sang in choirs, folk groups, and choruses as a child and young adult, and it is a central part of what I love about our services.

If you also like to sing, I invite you to join me and Hollis Kellogg before service on Sunday, November 13th

(meet at 9:30 in the sanctuary). We will learn a few songs together, and then share that gift in the service with the whole congregation. All are welcome.

We are each an essential part of telling our story together, and the most important gift that you can offer is your presence. Thank you for being a part of this community, and I look forward to seeing you in November.

In faith,

Terri Pahucki

From our Ministries

Social Action Ministry

On Friday, November 18, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary, the Social Action Ministry will continue our fall film and discussion series with Making A Killing.

Making a Killing: Guns, Greed, and the NRA tells the stories of how guns, and the billions made off of them, affect the lives of everyday Americans. It features personal stories from people across the country who have been affected by gun violence, including survivors and victims' families. The film exposes how the powerful gun companies and the NRA are resisting responsible legislation for the sake of profit - and thereby putting people in danger.

The film looks into gun tragedies that include unintentional shootings, domestic violence, suicides, mass shootings and trafficking - and what we can do to put an end to this profit-driven crisis.

Arts Ministry

Spiritual Arts Fair is Saturday, Nov. 5 at Taft School

From Keith Jordan

The UUCRT Spiritual Arts and Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at Taft Elementary School, 20 Toleman Road, Washingtonville, NY from 10 am to 5 pm. At this fair you will find a variety of handcrafted items, spiritual items, green living and organic products, psychic readers, healers, workshop presenters, musicians, and informational tables that may help you to realize your personal and family health and lifestyle dreams and visions.



This fair is an opportunity to experience some of the best psychics, inspirational workshop presenters, and spiritual intuitive teachers from our area, and at the same time do some holiday shopping for handmade craft items. Delicious food will be part of the fair.

This event is a fundraiser for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Rock Tavern.

The entrance fee for the fairgoer is \$5.

More information is available at www.uucrt.org/community/spiritual-arts-and-holiday-craft-fair or by calling Keith Jordan at 845-978-5620 or emailing kjordan101010@gmail.com.

Try Dinner, Musical Meditation after the Fair

After the Spiritual Arts Fair on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 5 pm to 8:30 pm, take the 4-mile trip from Taft Elementary School to the UUCRT and have some dinner, listen to music, participate in a musical guided nighttime labyrinth walk, and have a sound bath with the healing and energizing sounds of Himalayan bowls, crystal bowls, gong, flutes and other healing instruments to harmonize body, mind and spirit and

restore natural energy balance.



Celine Daly, Al Harris, Julie Harris

Sound vibration affects all the cells of the body to reduce stress, align and balance the

chakras and harmonize body, mind and spirit. The pure frequencies and complex overtones of the vibrational instruments promote healing by calming and recalibrating the nervous system. Sound baths are conducted for groups in a quiet space with participants sitting comfortably or lying on the floor. The one and a half hour program starts with a short opening meditation followed by a sound immersion.

Buy tickets online to save money:

	Online price	On-site price
Spiritual Arts Fair only	\$4	\$5
Evening Musical Meditation only	\$10	\$12
Fair plus Evening Event	\$12	\$15

Click to purchase tickets online: <https://nov-5-fair-and-evening-event.eventbrite.com>

FALL FINDS: Treasures in the Attic Let's Spring Into Fall with New Artwork in our Gallery

In keeping with our mission to “celebrate our place within the sacred web of existence, through the arts, our actions, and the spoken word,” we continue to cycle art through our Gallery that we feel will be uplifting both emotionally and spiritually to our Congregants and to all who enter our building in Rock Tavern.

Due to the request on the part of one of the artists in our current show to remove his work, the Arts Ministry has devised a plan. We are hoping to fill the bare spaces on our walls with art that you have cared for and own, but may be willing to part with and to have it sold through silent auction as a source of fundraising revenue for our beloved UU. This idea has been discussed in a congregational meeting before. Persons seemed interested, and it seems that perhaps the

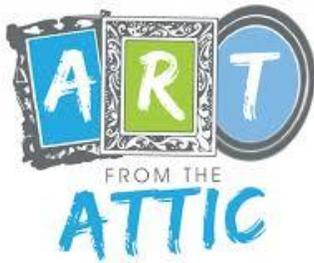
opportunity is calling us now.

So...if you have original framed artwork, prints, wall hangings, photographs that you are willing to sell, the purchase price gotten for the pieces will be

divided between yourself and the UU, each receiving 50% of the sale. If there is a price below which you are unwilling to part with the work, you may set a beginning bid price and these sheets will remain in the Sanctuary for people to bid on throughout the year.

This is a great way to recycle work that you might just not have room for on your walls and let others appreciate and be inspired by it. We would like to do this ASAP, so if you have such work, please take a picture of it and send it to: Roberta Green, Gallery Curator for the UUCRT by emailing: rgclaycreations@gmail.com and the Arts Ministry will try and make this happen as swiftly as possible.

In grateful service,
Roberta Green



Stewardship & Finance

A quick message to say thank you to friends and members for stepping up with pledge dollars as we near the end of this fiscal year.

Prior to the November 20 Congregational Meeting, a letter will be mailed regarding the January to June 'short year budget'. Please check out the information in the letter, and be prepared to return the tear off at the bottom to our Treasurer, Alan Horne.

Many thanks for your continued generous gifts of time, talent and treasure!

The S& F Ministry: Alan Horne, Heather Broadfoot, Jackie Jordan and Linda Mangelsdorf, Chair.

News

Refugee Resettlement Office to Open in Hudson Valley

NEWBURGH --The Greater Newburgh Interfaith Council is sponsoring an event Thursday Nov. 17 at 11:30 a.m. at Saint George's Episcopal Church in Newburgh to inform area clergy on the services and needs of the new refugee resettlement office that will open in Poughkeepsie. The office expects to begin resettling families from Syria in a 50 mile radius of Poughkeepsie beginning in January.

Continuing its work to address the demands of the largest displacement crisis in recorded history, Church World Service (CWS)—a global humanitarian organization and one of nine U.S. resettlement agencies—announced it will open a new refugee resettlement office in Poughkeepsie. Already, CWS resettles refugees in three New York State locations: Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse.

The office is currently seeking a director and will also be seeking graduate school interns in social work or ministry to volunteer in the Poughkeepsie Office. Interested parties can apply at www.Cwspoughkeepsie.org.

The speaker Nov. 17 at St. George's will be Brianne Casey, Community and Ecumenical Engagement Coordinator, Immigration and Refugee Program, Church World Service. St. George's is located at 105 Grand St., Newburgh. The program will end at 1 p.m. For further information contact Greater Newburgh Interfaith Council President the Rev. Chris J. Antal at antal@uuma.org.

Rev. Antal is minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Rock Tavern. Unitarians actively worked to resettle Jews escaping Nazi Germany during WWII and continue similar work today. Earlier this year the UUCRT helped a refugee family from Afghanistan resettle in New York.

“We are eager to engage with a new community to support those most in need, and we very much look forward to working with all of you to welcome refugees ..,” said Sarah Krause, Senior Director for Programs at CWS’ Immigration and Refugee Program.

CWS Poughkeepsie will offer newly arrived refugees comprehensive case management and employment services aimed at building a foundation for long-term self-sufficiency and success in the United States. Services will entail basic needs support, case management, cultural orientation, health access assistance, and job preparation and placement help. For more information about these services, visit cwspoughkeepsie.org.

Staff from CWS’ New York headquarters will visit Poughkeepsie to meet with partner organizations and community members in the coming weeks, holding a public information session on Nov. 10 at Adriance Memorial Library from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Throughout the event, information will be available about the US Refugee Admissions Program, expected Poughkeepsie neighbors, and opportunities for involvement, with a brief presentation at 5:30 p.m.

Nationwide, CWS’ 34 offices partner with local community organizations, volunteers, and congregations to help refugees resettle and become productive members of their new communities in the U.S. CWS directly administers nine local offices—now including Poughkeepsie—and contracts with an additional 25 affiliate offices.

Over the past 70 years, CWS has helped more than 850,000 refugees, Cuban and Haitian entrants, and other immigrants rebuild their lives in the United States. Whether by serving the most vulnerable where they are or by fostering welcoming communities and networks of vitality, CWS has been helping refugees resettle and rebuild ever since it has opened its doors in 1946.

Rev. Antal Invited to Join Mid Hudson Refugee Solidarity Alliance

POUGHKEEPSIE -- A Mid-Hudson Refugee Solidarity Alliance *All Community Meeting will be held Sunday, Nov. 6th, from 4-6 p.m. at the Vassar College Student Building, Second Floor.*

Rev. Chris J. Antal, minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Rock Tavern and president of the Greater Newburgh Interfaith Council has been invited to join the alliance.

Church World Services (CWS) is opening a refugee resettlement office in Poughkeepsie, and the first refugee families will be arriving in January, 2017. Our growing Mid-Hudson Refugee Solidarity Alliance and its members Vassar College, Dutchess County Community College, SUNY New Paltz, Mount St. Mary College, Vassar Temple, Christ Episcopal Church, Masjid al-Noor Mosque, Arlington Refugee Project, and Dutchess County Interfaith Council are ready to help. Come and find out how you can help.

Brianne Casey from CWS will be there to answer any questions you might have. Light



refreshments will be served. The meeting is sponsored by the Office of the

President, Vassar Refugee Solidarity and Mid-Hudson Refugee Solidarity Alliance.

The event is open to the public. If you have questions please contact refugeesolidarity@vassar.edu Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations or information on accessibility should contact the Campus Activities Office, (845) 437-5370.

Project Life Serves Newburgh Homeless, needs Volunteers

From Laura Bair

Thanks to our Social Action Ministry, many of us are thinking about how we might serve the greater good. Project Life is a place to consider. This not-for-profit division of the Newburgh Interfaith Emergency Housing, Inc. (N.I.E.H.), serves homeless families right here in the City of Newburgh and has been doing so for more than twenty years.

Project Life provides temporary housing for families who find themselves homeless due to economic setbacks or domestic abuse problems. Project Life offers a place to live while the adults are mentored in developing skills that will strengthen their families’ transition into independent members of society. Day care, after school homework help, and wholesome activities that bolster self-esteem, positive social interaction, and stress management are also provided.

Presently, Project Life needs both volunteers and financial support. Opportunities for volunteering

include working with children in the childcare and afterschool programs, teaching arts and crafts to young people or organizing youth recreation. People who are experienced in fund-raising and building maintenance are also needed.

If you would like to make a financial contribution to this valuable work, please know that any amount of donation will be appreciated and put to good use.

Project Life is currently working toward a \$20,000 fundraising goal to design and install an outdoor playground area for the children that are in temporary housing at



Project Life. Since Project Life has a 503 C 1 designation, all financial contributions made to Project Life are fully tax deductible.

If you are interested in getting involved in any capacity with Project Life, you may speak with Laura Bair at the UUCRT or contact the director of Project Life, Eileen Robertson, directly. She can be reached at (845) 569-9334 or by email at ProjectLife@NewburghInterFaithProjectLife.org

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Mailing address: PO Box 502,
Washingtonville, NY 10992-0502.
Phone: (845) 496-9696.

Editor and email distribution: John Kinney. Copy proofing: Athena Drewes and Keith Jordan; print distribution: Athena Drewes.

Webmaster: Jay Beaumont,
jaybeaumont49@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.uucrt.org>

Please send news to:
johnpkinney@hotmail.com by the 15th of the month