

# The Chalice Light

Vol. 47, Issue 3 March, 2018



## March, 2018 Calendar

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

**Every Sunday** – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Equal Exchange Table.

**March 4, Sunday** – 11:45 a.m. New to the UU Luncheon in Room 20.

**March 6, Tuesday** – 7 p.m. Orange County Psychic Experiences Group

**March 10, Saturday** – 7:30 p.m. Hudson Valley Folk Guild Rock Tavern Coffeeshouse.

**March 11, Sunday** – Noon, Pot Luck

**March 18, Sunday** – Noon to 1 p.m. “Centering” book group discussion

**March 25, Sunday** – Noon to 1 p.m. Veterans For Peace meeting in the Sanctuary

**April 7, Saturday**—7 to 9 p.m. Sip N’ Paint. Discover the artist within you

## 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](http://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.*

### **March 4: It’s a ‘Wonderful’ Life**

**Rev. Chris J. Antal**

With so many spiritual paths and destinations, wandering in the wilderness is integral to our way.

### **March 11: A Brief Revisit to ‘The Secret Teachings of All Ages’ by Manly P. Hall**

**Bill Domanico**

A refresher about the author and the massive book on lesser known spirituality and why it is still essential today.

### **March 18: ‘Come, Come Whoever You Are’**

**Terri Pahucki**

A contemplation of desert wisdom through the words of wanderers, worshippers, and mystics

### **March 25: Wanderlust**

**Rev. Chris J. Antal**

A reflection on religious journeys and the pilgrims who make them.

## From Your Minister

*We find the Holy in so much. We Unitarian Universalists are wandering pilgrims. There is no Mecca for us to face during prayer. There is no one single shrine that we approach with our bodies bent in prayer. There is no spit of land that is sacred above all others. There is no holiest of holies.*

These words, from my colleague, Susan Maginn, a UU minister serving in the Navy Chaplain Corps, seem an apt introduction to our theme for the month—wandering. If we are, as Chaplain Maginn claims, wandering pilgrims, then our life together should be a wonderful life. I invite you to explore this theme with your ministerial leadership team. Do you identify as a wandering pilgrim? If so, what does that identity mean to you, and how have you arrived at it? How do you feel to be a wanderer? Where is there joy in wandering? Where is there anxiety and concern? What is the purpose of our wandering? How might we support one another as we wander together? And is there a cost to wandering, an unintended consequence perhaps even? I find these questions intriguing; I hope you do too.

See you on Sunday,

Chris J. Antal

## **A Reflection from the Lay Commissioned Minister**

This semester I am taking classes on Judaism and Islamic history. I am thinking about the way the desert features in each of these faiths. From Israelites who wandered the desert after fleeing Egypt for 40 years... to Mecca's spring that rose in an arid land, bringing pilgrims to worship at the Ka'bah (sacred shrine). In the third century, early Christian monastics also lived in the desert. Religious wanderers would seek the wisdom of these Desert Fathers and Mothers, as they were called. In many religious traditions, the desert has been a place of wandering, seeking, and mystical revelation.

The month of March is a time of spiritual journeying, of wandering and walking the world. It is Lent in the Christian tradition-- forty days of spiritual discipline and sacrifice that precede the Easter celebration. For me personally, this is a time when my ancestors- father and grandparents who died in late winter- are present in my memory. I journey inward, gather wisdom, and walk slowly through the barren season into the life-giving spring.

In this month of wandering, let us seek wisdom together in the desert spaces of our lives. It is a joy that we get to search for truth and meaning in celebration together.

In faith,  
Terri Pahucki

## **From our Ministries**

### **Religious Exploration**

Children are welcome and celebrated at the UUCRT! Religious Exploration classes for children 7 and up are available on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of the month. Babysitting is available every Sunday for children up to age 6. Opportunities for older youth include participation in: Services, Fair Trade Table, Social Action Causes, varied UUCRT events

### **Congregational Life**

A UUCRT information sessions will be held on March 4th at approximately 11:45 p.m. directly following services.

The informal sessions are an opportunity to learn about our community and meet our pastor, the Rev. Chris Antal. Visitors will be able to get questions answered about the Unitarian Universalist denomination. Those who attended previous sessions are also welcome.

Come to enjoy a light fare while learning about our UUCRT community!

## **Stewardship and Finance**

A brief note from Stewardship and Finance:

Your Stewardship and Finance Ministry has been plagued by illness and separation this month. Please watch for a notice very soon that will bring you up to date. Thank you for your (anticipated) patience.

Alan Horne, Rebecca Jones, Jackie Jordan, Linda Mangelsdorf, chair and Heather Stuetzle

## **NEWS**

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### **Dates to Save!**

- April 7, 7 to 9 pm: Sip and Paint
- April 14: Trash to Treasure event
- May 20: Congregational Meeting

### **Rev. Antal to Present at Interfaith Drone Warfare Conference**

Rev. Chris J. Antal will present at the Connecticut Interfaith Conference on Drone Warfare Wednesday, March 14, at the Hartford Seminary, 77 Sherman St., Hartford, CT.

The UUCRT community is encouraged to attend Under President Trump, U.S. drone strikes have increased in frequency and the number of countries in which the U.S. is killing people with unmanned aerial



vehicles has also increased.

The Unitarian Universalist Association Creating Peace Statement of Conscience, endorsed by the

UUCRT by congregational vote, "repudiates aggressive and preventive wars, the disproportionate use of force, covert wars, and targeting that includes a high risk to civilians."

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Such being the case, the UUCRT is in a position to repudiate U.S. drone wars. Rev. Antal has been active with the Interfaith Network on Drone Warfare since 2015, which seeks to educate and empower religious communities to restrain this latest expression of U. S. militarism.

The network has produced free resources for congregations and offers regional trainings at no cost to participants. Contact Rev. Antal if you wish to join him on March 14 and he can provide or arrange transportation.



### ***'How Can I Keep From Singing?'***

Singer-songwriter Lydia Adams Davis presents at the UUCRT on Feb. 11. Lydia and Congregant and pianist Hollis Kellogg presented a program "How Can I Keep from Singing?" Photo by Jay Beaumont

## **Common Read Group Meets March 18, Newcomers Welcome**

The minister, lay commissioned minister, members and friends of the UUCRT met Saturday morning, February 10, in the Sanctuary to discuss the UUA Common Read for 2017-2018, *Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry*. This first discussion focused on the essay "Othering and Belonging" by Rev. Darrick Jackson, and the response by Rev. Lilia Cuervo.

The book group used the UUA discussion guide and practiced the spiritual practices for reading and discussing *Centering*: 1. Practice centering the experience of religious professionals of color; 2 Avoid the impulse to fix problems; 3) Resist the temptation to confess guilt and shame; and 4) question the UU

tendency to question authority. A full explanation of the spiritual practices can be found on pages 25-27 of the discussion guide.

The group decided that *Centering* is a rich resource and hopes more members and friends will join this vital discussion series. The group will meet again on Sunday, March 18, from 12-1 pm, to discuss leadership and ministry. The focus will be on the essay "Call and Response," by Rev. Lauren Smith (pp 43-57), and the response by Rev. Dr. Susan Newman Moore (pp. 58-65).

Newcomers are welcome to attend. The UUCRT no longer has copies of *Centering* available for purchase. It can be purchased through the UUA bookstore . One copy of *Centering* for shared use at the UUCRT will be available on the Welcome Table. Please do not remove the copy from the UUCRT and return it to the Welcome Table when you are done.



Participants at Last year's Knights Out dinner at West point.

## **UUCRT seeking sponsors and representatives to attend 2018 Knights Out Dinner**

2018 marks the 7th year Knights Out and Spectrum have hosted an annual Gala at West Point. Join cadets, faculty, alumni and friends of the Academy for a social evening overlooking the Hudson, where we will hear from special guests who have made a difference in every corner of the Armed Forces and beyond.

Details: Saturday, April 7 at 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT  
West Point Club, 603 Cullum Rd, West Point, New York 10996

Knights Out is proud to announce the selection of Major General Randy S. Taylor as the recipient of the 2018 Courage Award. You can read his bio at this link: <http://cecom.army.mil/pdfs/Major%20General%20Randy%20S%20Taylor.pdf>

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Help the UUCRT continue our proud tradition of welcoming and supporting the LGBTQ community at West Point.

You can help in one of three ways. You sponsor someone to attend, you can attend the dinner, you can both sponsor and attend the dinner. Our goal is to once again to be a Black Level Sponsor and contribute \$1,000. As a Black Level Sponsor, the UUCRT will be recognized in the program and from the podium, will receive four tickets to the dinner, and will be invited to the sponsor-only reception with award recipients and special guests.

Help us make the goal by March 1 and make your check payable to UUCRT with "Knights Out" the memo line.

### Discover the Artist Within You on April 7 at the UUCRT

The Second Annual UUCRT Sip N' Paint Benefit will be Saturday, April 7th from 7 to 9 pm at the UUCRT with artist Nancy Reed Jones  
\$40 per person



includes wine, snacks, a guided art lesson, and all the supplies needed to create your very own masterpiece!

Under the guidance of a Wallkill River School artist, you'll experience a tailored lesson and awaken your creativity, while sipping, snacking, and enjoying each other's company. Register at <https://upto.com/e/lcOPO>

You'll leave with an awesome painting and lots of fond memories! Come and discover the artist within you! If you prefer not to register online, give \$40 to Jane O'Donnell who will reserve a canvas and palette in your name.

***THE CHALICE LIGHT*** is the official newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Rock Tavern.

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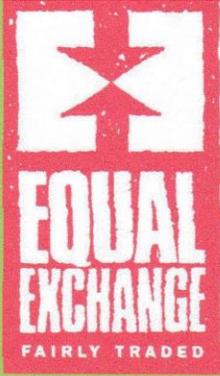
Our minister, the Rev. Dr. Chris J. Antal, serves us half-time and is available to the congregation two Sundays a month and most Thursdays. To contact him, leave a confidential voicemail at (845) 297-2792, or send an email to [antal@uuma.org](mailto:antal@uuma.org).

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Please send news to: [johnpkinney@hotmail.com](mailto:johnpkinney@hotmail.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.



# Fairtrade Café & Store

## Notice:

The Fairtrade table will not be open Sunday, April 1st.

## B.Y.O.M.

Bring your own mug for a free cup of Fairtrade



coffee!



## March Special!!!

**Sale** on Fairtrade hot cocoa!!!



## Fairtrade Store

Every Sunday  
10 am—1 pm



Coffee • Chocolate • Tea

Olive Oil • Snacks

And more to come!

- Staffed by volunteers
- All proceeds go to the UUCRT
- *New Volunteers Welcome!* 😊



**Easter Baskets** are on sale for the month of March!!! Get them while they last!