

The Chalice Light

Vol. 48, Issue 8 September, 2019



September, 2019 Calendar

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

Sept. 8, Sunday -- 8:45 a.m.: Board of Trustees meets

Sept. 8, Sunday—noon: Welcome Back BBQ/Outdoor Potluck

Sept. 14, Saturday –7:30 p.m.: Hudson Valley Folk Guild Coffeehouse

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.

Sept. 1: Cynthia Gilkeson & Bill Domanico will lead a Labyrinth Walk and Meditation

Sept. 8: Rev. Chris Antal, Water Communion In-gathering. Bring water from near and far to celebrate our connection to one another and the earth.

Sept. 15: Barrie Peterson, When You Find Out Your Ancestors Owned Slaves

Sept. 22: Rev. Chris Antal, Power and Light

This past May Rev. Antal rode his bike to Washington, D.C., with Interfaith Power and Light (IPL). The UUCRT is a member congregation of the New York chapter of IPL. Rev. Antal will share about his ride, along with the history and purpose of IPL, and explore what member congregations like the UUCRT are doing, or can do.

Followed by "Bike to Beer."

We will depart the UUCRT at 1 p.m., ride our bikes about 6 miles to Loughran's Irish Pub, 10 School House Road, Salisbury Mills. Our route will be along 207 and Station Road. For those who would like to ride with Rev. Antal to the UUCRT in the morning, you are invited to park for free at the Salisbury Mills Cornwall Metro Station (about 1 mile from Loughran's) and rendezvous at Cumberland Farms, 1634 State Route 34, Salisbury Mills at 8 a.m.



Sept. 29: Jaye Moyer, Exploring Forgiveness –

Zen teacher, Joko Beck wrote: "Our failure to know joy is a direct reflection of our inability to forgive."

Starting with this understanding, we will explore the experience of forgiveness. Forgiveness can be a long and arduous path. What are the obstacles that we confront along this path? How might we begin or move in the direction to soften and release the armor of resistance and allow more space to grow freedom, spontaneity and joy.

Message from Our Minister

Rev. Chris J. Antal

After five months away for sabbatical and vacation, I am glad to be back with the congregation. I am also glad to say I felt a warm welcome upon my return to the pulpit on August 11 (a minister never knows what might transpire in one's absence!).

Sabbatical is not vacation, as in a time to "get away" or a time to abstain from work. Rather, sabbatical is a time to go deeper and engage in work with a special focus. For me that focus took the form of reflection on my past eight years of ordained ministry, personal recommitment to the principles and purposes that

define our faith, and more robust action in service to core values.

On August 11, I shared some details about how I spent my time. I feel some obligation to do this with the congregation as I do believe we need to be accountable to one another for how we work (and sometimes don't work) to embody the principles we covenant to affirm and promote. For me, one of the great values of religious community is the accountability it often provides: when we are at our best, we hold one another accountable to live in right relationship, as defined by our principles and purposes.

During my sabbatical, I found renewal and deepening in the work of giving blood, sweat, and tears. Since March I have given three gallons of platelets at the American Red Cross Blood Donation Center on Spring Garden Street in Philadelphia. Since March, I have given my sweat, pedaling more than 2,000 miles on my bicycle, including a ride to Washington, D.C., with Interfaith Power and Light, to lobby representatives to act on climate change. And since March, I have continued to give my tears, as I provide spiritual care to Veterans, and bear witness to the consequences of U.S. warfare.

I call this work, and any work in service to core values, ministry. This month I invite you to consider our shared ministry, which was central to the UUCRT's call when I became your settled minister.

In August, we celebrated Terri Pahucki's completion of her term of service as UUCRT Lay Commissioned Minister. I will miss sharing my ministry with Terri at the UUCRT, yet I rejoice knowing Terri leaves this role at the UUCRT to expand her ministry in other contexts, that Terri and I will continue to remain colleagues in the Unitarian Universalist Minister's Association, and Terri has established a precedent at the UUCRT that invites others, perhaps you, to follow.

See you on Sunday,
Chris

Acting President's Message

By Laura Bair

Dear Members and Friends,
On behalf of the Board of Trustees, a warm and hearty welcome to all. To those we see on a regular basis, those we see occasionally, and to those we haven't seen for a while, we invite you to join us on Sunday, September 8th for a fun, family barbeque following the

10:30 service. This event, chaired by Pasha Moffett and Bernadette McGinn, promises to be a good time to get together and to spend time with us.

Beginning Sept 8, a babysitter will be available during services for children ages newborn to six years of age. Religious Exploration, our Sunday school program for children ages seven through twelve, will begin on September 15th and continue throughout the school year. This year, we are thrilled to announce that the program will be available every Sunday thanks to our generous volunteers, Kathy Bader, Hollis Kellogg, Mike Landrum, Bernadette McGinn, and Erica Nichols. We are still in need of teaching assistants. If interested, please contact me at lagbair@aol.com

As many of you know, we have a few new Board members. We welcome Nan Dempster as Secretary, and Bernadette McGinn and Michael Nichols as members at large. Alan Horne continues as Treasurer. I am the Vice President and will be Acting President until a new president is named. Bill Domanico continues as a Board member at large. Please feel free to speak to anyone of us after services or to contact us through our email addresses listed below. We are interested in your concerns and comments. As Board members, we are here to serve you and to support the growth and well-being of the UUCRT.

Finally, but not at all least, we are excited to welcome back Rev. Chris Antal who has completed his sabbatical and returned to us on August 11th. Rev. Chris will be preaching on September 8th for our Water Communion Ingathering. Please join us at this homecoming.
In service,
Laura Giner Bair

Board Members:

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From the June Board of Trustees minutes:

- Jane moved, seconded by Laura that the May minutes of the BOT be accepted as written. Carried.

- Jane moved, seconded by Bill that the November Semi-Annual meeting be held on the first Sunday in November. Carried.
- Jane moved, seconded by Mike, that we donate \$150 from the refugee fund to the organization Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson. Carried.



Members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Rock Tavern with the congregation's "Let's Make It Happen" banner. The congregation's religious education program kicks off on Sept. 15.

Religious Exploration Program for Children Begins Sunday, Sept. 15

As the new school year approaches, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Rock Tavern (www.UUCRT.org) invites parents and caregivers to enroll their children in a unique Religious Education program Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the congregation's fellowship hall.

"The UUCRT supports parents and caregivers in the development of children's spiritual needs and character building," according to Laura Bair, the congregation's acting president. "Reinforcing what families strive to teach their children at home, the children's program develops kindness, respectfulness, fair-mindedness, compassion, and inner strength of character."

Unitarian Universalist religious education includes participation in worship, social justice work, and multigenerational interaction. After the Time for All Ages during the Sunday worship, children depart the service and attend an interactive class that emphasizes the core beliefs of Unitarian Universalism...that there is inherent worth and dignity in every human being, that we accept one another, that we believe in justice and liberty for all, and that we respect the web of life. Classes combine story, song, art, discussion, and play to engage children with many learning styles.

Religious Education occurs on Sunday mornings beginning Sept. 15th for children ages seven through twelve and continues through June. All are welcome. The congregation also provides a babysitter during the worship service for children ages newborn through six. The congregation is located at 9 Vance Road, (off Rt. 207) in Rock Tavern, NY. For further information, please contact Laura Bair at 845-542-4881 or lagbair@aol.com.

Go UU, Beat Pasta!

The UUCRT is recruiting members and friends to join a new blood donation team with the American Red Cross!

The ARC records the standings of more than 30,000 teams according to number of lives impacted. The UUCRT team currently has three members and is ranked at 8,252, with 60 lives impacted. The top twenty ranked teams include two religious organizations: the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints aka The Mormons (#13/50,000 lives) and The Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster aka the Pastafarians (#19/28,000 lives). Can the UUCRT beat the Pastafarians?

To join the team you need to register with the ARC and download the app. From there click "impact" and then "join a team." You can only join one team so be sure to select UUCRT!

Share life
Give blood



Care Team Schedule for September

Sept. 1—Jan Kinney
Sept. 8—Jan Kinney
Sept. 15—Donna Deming
Sept. 22—Jaye Moyer
Sept. 29—Jaye Moyer

Solstice: Solar for Every American

On Sunday, Aug. 18, three representatives of Solstice, a "Solar for every American" company based in Cambridge, MA came to the UUCRT to provide an opportunity to learn about solar farms/community solar. Condo and apartment dwellers, as well as folks whose home is either unsuited to a solar panel array, or who simply are not interested in the investment and construction involved, were informed about the workings of solar farms, the grid and the utility companies who receive the solar power. Once the solar

farm is “live” participants will receive a credit of 10% off the price the utility company usually charges.

Tim, Johanna and David presented a slide show and answered questions for the 22 members and friends who enjoyed lunch, provided by Solstice. Several members registered for the program.



Past president Mike Landrum with representatives from Solstice L to R Tim, David and Johanna

As an incentive for individuals to sign up, Solstice offered \$200 to UUCRT and an additional \$150 to individuals.

The opportunity continues to exist for any friend or member to gain information, become a part of the carbon footprint reduction program offered, and reap a financial benefit both for themselves and for the UUCRT. Learn more by emailing Tim@solstice.us, or phone Tim at 607-241-0125.

Let’s Hear It! Fund Raisers Enable a New UUCRT Sound System

We have purchased a new pair of JDL 15 inch, powered Speakers with a Yamaha, 10 inch stereo mixer, as well as two microphones - a wired Shure and a wireless lavalier (lapel mic)

This equipment was purchased using over \$1,300 received by the congregation from several fundraising events: concerts by Aida and Steve Margoshes and by Ken DeAngelis & Julie Zivras; a cabaret by Debra Vogel; and the Solstice Solar fundraising event.

Many thanks to all the artists, presenters and members of the congregation who worked so hard to enable the purchase of this equipment for our sanctuary.

--Mike Landrum



Greet Veterans Honor Flight Veterans

In the words of Will Rogers, “We can’t all be heroes. Some of us have to stand on the curb and clap as they walk by.”

On Saturday, October 12, Orange County residents will have that opportunity. Honor Flight, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing veterans with honor and closure, will transport WWII and Korean veterans to Washington, DC, free of charge, for a day of touring the Memorials on the National Mall.

Members of the public — and why not a contingent of members from the UUCRT? — can gather at Stewart Airport to welcome the veterans as they board the airplane, and return in the evening to shake their hands and welcome them home!

“Meet and greet” is one of the many ways to volunteer. Interested? Check the website www.hvhonorflight.com

Contact Linda Mangelsdorf and we’ll create a ‘group signup’! lcrn75@gmail.com

The Chalice Light is the official newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Rock Tavern. Mailing address: PO Box 502, Washingtonville, NY 10992-0502. Phone: (845) 496-9696.

Our minister, the Rev. Chris J. Antal, serves us part time and is available two Sundays a month. He is available by appointment on those Sundays between 1-3pm. Contact him by email at antal@uuma.org to schedule an appointment.

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