

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ROCKLAND**

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## **THE ROCKLAND UNITARIAN**

**June 2017**

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**Editor: Mary Holdampf**

**June 4, 10:30 a.m. Rev. Dawn Sangrey**  
**What Can We Do?**

Inspirational talk about justice and peace for all can be worthwhile, maybe even necessary as a precursor to action, but in the end we want to know what we can *do* to change things: to dismantle our white supremacist culture, to stop white cops from killing unarmed black people, to feed the hungry, to end the wars, to welcome and help settle refugees, to reverse the effects of climate change. So much injustice and suffering cry out for intervention, for change, for healing. What can we do?

**Coordinator: Mike Steger**

**June 11, 10:30 a.m. Terri Pahucki**  
**Religious Education Sunday**

Join the religious education (RE) program in an end of class year worship and celebration. In this service, we will celebrate our faith development from this past year and recognize those who have worked hard to support our children and youth.

**Coordinator: Laurie Young**

*Share your flowers! We like to have a bouquet on the pulpit each Sunday. If you have seasonal flowers, bring a bunch and we'll supply a vase from our collection in the kitchen.*

*Emily Kratzer*



**June 18, 10:30 a.m. Rev. Dawn Sangrey**  
**Flower Festival**

Bring a flower to share in this annual Unitarian Universalist ritual where we celebrate the individual beauty and worth of every person and reaffirm our commitment to our faith community. A bridging ceremony, litanies of gratitude, and traveling mercies will round out the morning, our last service before the summer.

**Coordinator: Dan Hanchrow**

**June 25, 10:30 Art Aldrich**  
**Our Visual Culture:**

**How We Lost Our Literary Heritage**  
What has happened to the grand dialogues carried on through the ages, imparting the wisdom of Aristotle, Plato and later philosophers and scholars? A profusion of images, delivered instantly, seems to have replaced the rich literary heritage that has inspired and enlightened Western liberal thought since the Renaissance. A culture based on reasoned discourse seems now to be threatened or even supplanted by a culture based on visual gratifications. This service will explore the transformation and what the future holds for liberal thinkers. A multi-media presentation.

**Coordinator: Tricia Larkin**

## *Follow Your Bliss...*

Summer begins in a few weeks so we're in one of those finishing up and starting over times of year, a transition when things seem to slow down and accelerate at the same time. Lots of different kinds of energy pull at us.

As I am writing on the third Sunday in May, we've had drenching rains, cold chilly days, and also days when the heat set new record highs. The flowers have been soaked with rain, chilled to their roots, and now they're opening to the full blast of the early summer sun.

Bring one of those blooms to the Flower Communion that will end our congregational year on June 21, a ritual in which each person contributes a flower, all the flowers are collected into a single beautiful bouquet, and at the end of the service each person takes away a different flower.

Here at the congregation we've just had our Annual Meeting, passed a new budget, and elected members of the Board of Trustees and Board of Worship. We're laying the groundwork for the coming congregational year that starts in the fall. Over the summer our new leaders will get organized, set goals, and prepare to continue the progress and success of the last year

Over the summer the Board of Worship will organize lay-led services, at least one guest minister will be in our pulpit, and UUCR will be open for worship every Sunday. While I'm at the General Assembly and on vacation, one of my UU minister colleagues will be available. If you need pastoral care during that time, our administrator and the new BOT chair will be able to refer you.

I hope you will take advantage of the summer months to change your routine and give yourself the nourishment you need. For me the summer promises to be full of challenges since my husband Paul and I are moving in August. Our new address is uncertain, but we will stay within commuting distance of the congregation. In between packing, Paul and I will spend a week hiking in the White Mountains and a week in Idaho at a Sangrey family reunion. We'll get together with our kids and our grandkids.

Whatever you plan for the coming summer months, I hope you will be nourished and lightened and delighted. Follow your bliss, and come back to share what you have learned.

Blessings.

Dawn

the Rev. Dawn Sangrey, Consulting Minister  
[dawnsangrey@gmail.com](mailto:dawnsangrey@gmail.com)

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## *ANNUAL MEETING ROUNDUP*

On Sunday May 21st UUCR held its annual meeting. All nominees were accepted as per the Call to the Annual Meeting with the following additions:

Barry Peterson was nominated from the floor to fill the open seat on the BOT. He accepted the role and was voted in by the congregation. Nominations for the 2018 Nominating Committee were also taken from the floor. In the end Trudy Pojman, Laurie Young, Carrie Steindorff, Nel Hubbard and Ken d'Oronzio agreed to be on the committee and were voted in unanimously.

Two Reports were given from the floor. Barbara Francis presented the Treasurer's Report. She let us know that our renter is behind on the rent and has been paying a reduced amount. Active discussions are under way to find a replacement renter for the RE Building ASAP. Art Aldrich presented for Buildings and Grounds to give us the status of the building, bell tower and grounds.

Rob Young - Clerk of the Congregation

***July Newsletter Deadline  
June 18, 2017  
6 pm***

# RE NEWS

I can't believe the Religious Education year is almost complete! In May, the Neighboring Faiths class visited their last site- the Chuang Yen Monastery in Carmel- and the Spirit of Adventurers learned about their last UU hero, Pete Seeger. Now both are preparing to share a year of learning with all of you! Religious Education Sunday will be held on Sunday, June 11th. The service will include a look back on adventures in world religions and famous UU's that our classes embarked on this past year. We will also honor and recognize all those who guided and accompanied our children in the classrooms and beyond. Our service will be followed by an end-of-year picnic, before heading over to the Pride Festival in Nyack.

On June 18th, we will celebrate a Multigenerational Flower Communion with Rev. Dawn Sangrey. This service will also include a bridging ceremony for Basil Bennett-Levy, who is graduating high school and heading to college in the fall. Summer services begin on June 25th; childcare will be provided in the nursery. Older children are encouraged to attend the services and may bring a book or quiet activity.

As we prepare for next year, we have many things to look forward to! There will be an Our Whole Lives meeting on Sunday, June 4th at 1 PM for parents of middle and high school youth to learn about the UUA's sexuality education program, an essential part of faith formation. UUCR will offer the OWL program for youth in grades 7-9 on Sunday afternoons (about 1 per month) according to registered families' schedules. We also hope to offer a shorter program of OWL for youth in grades 10-12. Both programs are open to non-UU's so please spread the word. There is a \$100 registration fee for non-members.

Sign-up sheets for next year's teaching, assisting, and youth advising teams will be available in the worship room in June. Our classes will be focusing

on Social Justice (with a little magic thrown in... ). Come to RE Sunday to learn more!

June	4	Children's Worship Service, RE Classes
	11	RE Sunday
	18	Flower Communion Sunday
	25	Summer Schedule Begins
<i>RE classes resume in September</i>		

Terri Pahucki  
Director of Religious Education

## DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

General Assembly will be from June 21-25 in New Orleans. Rev. Dawn Sangrey and Jane Cowan plan to attend. Among the topics to be addressed there are "Escalating Inequality," a change in wording of the UUA bylaws and election of a new UUA president. There are myriad workshops on very compelling issues. Learn more by going to UUA.org or by checking with Dawn, Jane or Emily.

## TREASURER'S NEWS

Congratulations to all who attended the Annual Meeting on Sunday, 5/21. The budget was passed as recommended by the BOT. There was much discussion about the rental situation and the roof. June ends our fiscal year, and I will be sending out statements to any who have outstanding balances on their pledges.

June will also be the final month of collection for the MLK Center for this fiscal year.

Barbara Francis, Treasure

# PREPARE!

If you come alone to the UUCR services, we'd like to talk with you about who your emergency contact is - in case there is a situation when you can't speak for yourself and we might need to contact a family member or friend. Please see Rev. Dawn or Emily Kratzer so that we can be sure to notify the correct person in an emergency.

On a similar topic, Rev. Dawn and Emily have attended workshops on "Improving the Lives of Older Congregants." Ask them for an information sheet! The workshops included information on home-care assessments, agencies, Medicare, Medicaid, elder law and more. Brochures from the Rockland County Office for the Aging are available and have everything in one place.

## SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

Please join us Sunday Evening, June 25th 7:30-9:00pm for our Summer Solstice Celebration and Shamanic Fire Ceremony with Mikki Baloy and friends. Please bring a dish or beverage to share for our potluck. All are welcome.

## JUNE GREETERS

6/4/2017  
Roberta Chang  
Emily Kratzer

6/18/2017  
Elaine Aldrich  
Trudy Pojman

6/11/2017  
Geraldine Shaw  
Seamus Gallagher

6/25/2017  
Sally Andriette  
Alex Chase

*June's Coffee Hostess*  
*Alex Chase*



# WELCOME

We are so pleased to welcome Bill Capowski and Basil Bennett-Levy into our congregation. We support you in your spiritual journey.



## SHOPPING FOR...

- June brides?
- Graduating grandchildren?
- Summer paraphernalia?
- Pool supplies?

Don't forget to use the **amazon icon** on the right side of our home page:  
[www.uurocklandny.org](http://www.uurocklandny.org)

Also, please keep recycling your used ink cartridges. They may be dropped off at any time or left near the front door. I very much appreciate them as they are a big savings for the office.

## THOUGHTS...

I think that one of our most important tasks is to convince others that there's nothing to fear in difference; that difference, in fact, is one of the healthiest and most invigorating of human characteristics without which life would become meaningless. Here lies the power of the liberal way: not in making the whole world Unitarian [Universalist], but in helping ourselves and others to see some of the possibilities inherent in viewpoints other than one's own; in encouraging the free interchange of ideas; in welcoming fresh approaches to the problems of life; in urging the fullest, most vigorous use of critical self-examination.

- Adlai Stevenson