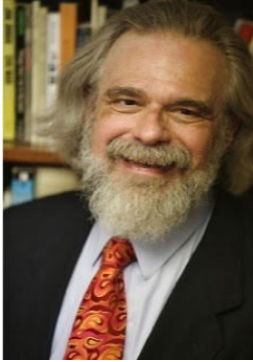
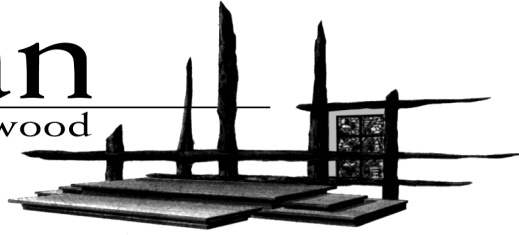


Unitarian

Society of Ridgewood



From the Interim Minister's Mailbox

During the cottage meetings last fall, the theme of theological diversity emerged in two contradictory perceptions. One perception was that the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood's identity as a Humanist society was becoming weaker. The other was that the Society's identity as a Humanist society made it difficult for religious liberals who were not Humanists to feel fully welcome and served by the Society's ministries. My experience is that when contradictory perceptions such as these exist within a religious society, each contains some truth. Understanding what is true in this instance means, in part, having clarity on what we mean by "humanist" and what we mean by "inclusive". The meanings we give to these words can be very different.

The third series of "Going Deeper" discussions will focus on theological diversity. I will lay out a framework for discussion, within which you can express your understandings, concerns, and hopes. Let's explore these contradictory perceptions.

One of the attractions of Unitarian Universalism is the space it provides for religious people of diverse beliefs but shared values to explore together their beliefs and how to live their values. As you elect a Ministerial Search Committee and look to a new settled ministry to begin in the fall of 2017, you will find it helpful to have personal clarity and a common understanding of the strength of identity and breadth of diversity that already exists in the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood.

The dates for *Going Deeper into Theological Diversity* will be April 6th (Wednesday), 7 – 9 PM, April 9th (Saturday), 10 AM – 12 Noon, April 10th (Sunday), 12 Noon – 2 PM, and April 13th (Wednesday), 1 PM – 3 PM. Each discussion is free standing and open to all. However, the Transition Team and I request that you sign up for one (or more) by emailing usr.transitionteam@gmail.com or speaking with a Team member. The members of the Transition Team are Delight Dodyk, Kirsten Henrickson, David Knechel, David Myers, and Carol Patterson.

As we continue our work together during this time of transition, I remind you that you may call on me regarding personal matters, the Society, and the transition. My office hours are on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM. I am available at other times by appointment. Please keep in mind that Monday is my day off and Thursday is my writing and study day. Please call me on my cell phone if you cannot reach me in the office.

Finally, whatever may be on you mind and heart, take time to breathe in the clear air of spring and to enjoy life with family, friends, and neighbors.

Rev Dr TJ

Minister's direct office line: 201-345-9587

Cell: 646-515-4729

Email: usr.minister@gmail.com



Reflections

Happy Spring! Spring is, for many, a time to clean out the dust and darkness of winter, literally and metaphorically, and to look ahead to light and growth. Personally, I love spring cleaning. I am challenging myself this year to not only clean my physical surroundings, but to also take stock of where I am on my life journey, check back to the New Year's resolutions I made and assess my progress, and lay the foundation for continued personal growth throughout the warmer months.

Spring is also a time to assess the religious education program at USR, and set our sights on the year to come. If you were at the RE Celebration Service on March 20, you participated in our first step - answering questions about what you wish for our children and youth. Thank you so much for your thoughtful participation! We heard appreciation for the enthusiasm, energy, thoughtfulness, joy, vulnerability, spontaneity, curiosity, silliness, love, and innocence, to name just a few, that our children and youth bring to life at USR. We expressed hope that at USR, they will learn understanding, acceptance, self-worth, independence and interdependence, and the ability to act to make the world a better place. We hoped that they will come to see USR as a home, and a safe place where they will always be embraced by community. These are just a few of the things that were expressed that Sunday.

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Your feedback at the RE Celebration Service was the beginning of a more formal visioning process that we will undertake to form clear goals for our religious education program. On April 24, the CYREC, representatives from the Board, and anyone else who has a stake in the religious education program (and from my perspective, that's the whole congregation) and wants to participate will attend an RE Visioning Workshop lead by a district consultant. The CYREC and I will also be reassessing the curriculum used in the religious education program, and making a comprehensive plan to strive for the goals we set in the next church year.

In closing, it has been such a joy to get to know you this year, and I hope that this visioning process will make my relationships with each of you individually and with the congregation as a whole even deeper. I look forward to our continued work together, and as always, am happy to hear from you! Feel free to email or call anytime, or drop in during my office hours, 9:30am-3pm on Tuesday and Friday.

In faith,

Johanna

FROM THE BOARD



Dear Friends,

In this season of rebirth and renewal, the USR Annual Budget Drive provides an opportunity to pause and consider the place of our beloved community in each of our lives. Our individual pledges pay for more than 70% of USR operating costs; the remainder comes from various fundraisers, and rental and investment income.

The theme of this year's drive is ***Building a Bridge to the Future***. We stand on the cusp of a new era in our congregation's 120-year history. This past year, we've begun the work of transition: we've attended Cottage Meetings and worked with our Transition Team, and we've completed our first Interim Ministry assessment. We've fielded a stellar group of congregants willing to serve on the Ministerial Search Committee. The Board will soon announce this committee to the congregation.

In the coming year, we will embark together on the search for our next settled minister. To put ourselves in the best possible position for this search, we need to shore up the footings of our bridge. Here are the items that we'll need to fund:

- **Continue funding our Interim Minister.** We are indeed fortunate to have Rev. Tony to partner with us in this transition period. His extensive experience, deep understanding of congregational life and social justice movements, including Black Lives Matter, sage counsel, and steady moral compass have been of tremendous value to our congregation. His salary and benefits reflect his experience and knowledge base – they are \$10k higher than what was budgeted for our former minister;
- **Prepare for the Ministerial Search.** Our UUA Ministerial Settlement Representative, Rev. Craig Hirschberg, estimates that we'll need \$20k to fund our search. This funding will cover travel costs for our committee members and prospective minister;
- **Replenish our Building Maintenance Fund.** For the last several years, the Board has dealt with shortfalls in our Annual Budget Drive by not putting into our routine Building Maintenance Fund. This is no longer an advisable course of action: this year alone, we needed to pay for a new boiler and we expect that we will soon need to fund repairs and replacements of other equipment. To help replenish the fund, we'll need \$20k; and
- **Continue to adhere to UUA Principles of Fair Compensation for our staff.** We are privileged to have such a hard-working and dedicated office staff, and we are committed to adhering to the UUA fair compensation guidelines. This year, the Board conducted an ***extensive job study*** for all our staff, and streamlined job descriptions and responsibilities to help ensure maximum efficiency for our staff members.

The Board made some changes in the job of the Membership Administrator, with Ann Pareti taking over Facilities Rentals. In many ways, this was fortuitous: our rental income sharply increased after Ann took over. But Ann is still a part-time employee and this change meant that she had even fewer hours to work on Membership. As a result, Ann and the other staff members too often work without compensation, in stark violation of our principles of fair compensation.

The Board is grateful to the congregation for its generosity. Because of you, we have been able to recommit to our Religious Education Program, hiring a very talented Director of Religious Education, Johanna Seale, as well as an excellent support staff. We have also continued to live out our mission of serving self and world, joining together in a myriad of activities within our congregation and in the wider world.

Now we ask that you be ***ambitiously generous*** -- that you dig deeper, if you can, and increase your pledge. There has never been a better time for you to recommit to our beloved community – your pledge is the cement and the pilings that will enable us to build our bridge to the future.

As always, thank you for all you do for our beloved community.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Samuels

FROM THE BOARD

USR CONGREGATIONAL FOCUS 2015-2016

Black Lives Matter and Racial Justice in America



You can catch up on two important Black Lives Matter events if you missed them. Go to uuridgewood.org to listen to the podcasts of the February 21 Town Hall and/or Rev. Tony's address "Black Lives Matter" on March 13.

The next events include:

April 17 Education Justice committee service: "Why Is Your School Different Than Mine?" The guest speaker will be Junius Williams, Esq., Director of the Abbott Leadership Institute at Rutgers, Newark campus.

April 22 YWCA of Bergen County Racial Justice awards event evening at USR. The Social Responsibilities Council and Racial Justice Committee are co-sponsors.

April 24 Congregation **vote** on hanging "Black Lives Matter" banner.

May 8 MaMa's day service sponsored by Reproductive Justice committee.

The proposed wording of the banner includes "Join the Discussion Here" and the Racial Justice committee is laying plans for Fall programs including speakers (Kenny Wiley an editor for UU World and a leader in the Black Lives Matter movement in Denver, CO), book discussions ("Just Mercy") and at least one film ("Profiled").

The number of UU congregations with Black Lives Matter banners outside their buildings continues to grow. There are now at least 135 (up 10 from a month ago). Central Unitarian Church will vote on their hanging a banner on April 24. The Congregation of the Palisades hangs their banner every Sunday in their rented quarters. For any questions or additional information contact Carol Loscalzo or Carolyn Musser.

New York Metro District Annual meeting

BETTER TOGETHER

**UU District of Metro New York
Annual Meeting
Central East Region**

Hyatt Headquarters Hotel, Morristown, NJ
May 6-7, 2016

Keynote Speaker:
Taquiena Boston

Friday Night Concert:
Brother Sun

Details & Registration:
www.uumetrony.org/am16

Advance registration by April 29th
hotel reservations by April 21st

OUTSTANDING WORKSHOPS
INSPIRING FUN
WORSHIP
FOOD
MUSIC
THE UU NETWORK MALL

BETTER TOGETHER is the theme of the 2016 UU District of Metro New York, Central Eastern Region being held May 6-7 at the Morristown Hyatt Hotel.

For information and details go to the Metro District website <http://www.uumetrony.org> If you plan to go contact Laura Krag or Martin Lavanhar.

FROM THE BOARD

April 23, 2016 Leadership Development Workshop

In an ongoing effort to foster effective leaders who can help our congregation continue to be an energetic and forceful “beacon for justice and love”, the Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committee will offer another Leadership Development workshop on Saturday, April 23, beginning at 9:30am and ending with lunch, in the Fellowship Room. Coffee and Bagels will be served at 9am. The workshop is part of an ongoing effort to develop leaders of the future who will help carry on the strong tradition of lay leadership at USR. It will help congregants develop leadership skills which can help them further contribute to whatever activities they may undertake at USR or in their own lives. The workshop will provide an opportunity for personal and professional growth.

The April 23 workshop, presented as one of many under the umbrella Leadership program, “Harvest the Power”, is entitled “Caring for Ourselves and Each Other”. The workshop will help participants consider how they care for themselves as leaders and how they encourage self-care for congregants, as well as amongst congregants and each other. Participants will reflect on the causes of personal stress/burnout and on their own responses to stress. Among other things, participants will identify the responsibilities they hold as people and as leaders, and reflect on their sense of spiritual and emotional well being. They will also discuss differences among people in terms of fulfillment or distress, and learn strategies to build and maintain a congregational culture that encourages spiritual and emotional health in themselves as leaders, as well as in volunteers within the Congregation. The Nominating Committee will be reaching out to potential future leaders. If you are interested in learning more about this initiative or would like to participate, please contact Julie McMurray. Seating is limited, so please respond promptly. Childcare available with advance notice.



“PICK 6”

Yes, the Board is looking for 6 GA Delegates!! General Assembly - June 22-26 Columbus Ohio

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA).

Being a delegate is a very important assignment to fulfill for USR.

The Board wants to create a fair, consistent process for the yearly selection of USR’s six delegates to GA. Also, we want to provide USR with a diverse delegation to GA.

To be a delegate an individual needs to meet the following criteria:

- Be a current member of USR for two years or have been a recent member of another congregation for a minimum of two years and a member of USR for one year.
- Has been an active member. i.e. Membership, Fiber Festival, Auction, RE Teacher
- Not a 2015 delegate. This would be waived if we do not reach our delegate limit.

The selected delegates will pay for their own travel, room and food expenses. **USR will pay for GA registration fee.**

What is required?

- * All delegates are expected to attend all plenary sessions to be present to vote on all issues.
- * Bring back to USR information learned at sessions and workshops that would be meaningful to our congregation.
- * Write a report to record learning.

If you are interested, contact Martin Lavanhar, Denomination Representative, for information or submit name to Laura Krag. You may also go to the UUA website for details. If you are under 18 years old and would like to be a delegate please contact Martin for further information. Deadline for applying to be a delegate is April 18th. Delegates will be notified of their selection by April 24th.

SAFE CONGREGATION



Rev. Debra Haffner, President and CEO of the Religious Institute recently informed the Safe Congregation Response Team that The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood has achieved the status as a "Sexually Safer Best Practice Congregation". This designation is based on a self-assessment and review of the USR Safe Congregation Policies. During the self - assessment phase the Board of Trustees approved some modifications to the policy including updating of the nursery staffing and child care policy, changing the requirement for 2 adults to be present as teachers/volunteers in Religious Education classes to two unrelated adults to be present at all times and guidelines for including a child or adolescent who has sexually abused.

With this designation, congregations strive to sustain a community where practices and procedures serve to ensure all members, friends, adults, children and youth are treated with respect and protected from harassment and abuse. It allows USR to use the seal in all communication venues until 2020 when it must be renewed.

This designation has recently been offered by the Religious Institute (RI). RI is a multifaith organization dedicated to advocating for sexual health, education and justice in faith communities and society. It was founded by Rev. Haffner, a UU minister. USR is one of the first congregations to be given this designation.

If you have questions, the Response Team members are Carol Loscalzo, Wally Griffith, Steven Samuels, Suzanne Samuels, Rev. Tony Johnson and Johanna Seale, DRE.

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

FELLOWSHIP FEAST

A note of thanks to all of our hard-working hosts for the recent Fellowship Feast, including: Elizabeth Ames; Donna Barrett; Mary Boutin; Sean and Stephanie Brennan; Bea Cronin and Marie Geiselhart; Susan Fink; Susanne and Eric Fuhrmann; Eileen Jarrett; Betsy Longendorfer; Frank and Carol Loscalzo; Peter Orsini; Suzanne and Steven Samuels; Judy Scanlan and Sofy Foda; Gerti Schoen and Peter Levy; Judd and Elaine Seals; Inge and David Spungen; Assunta Trischka; Dawn and Charlie Walter and Rob and Suzanne Willis. Thanks to our bartenders, Kathryn and Russell Ives, Peter Duran and Glenn Pareti.

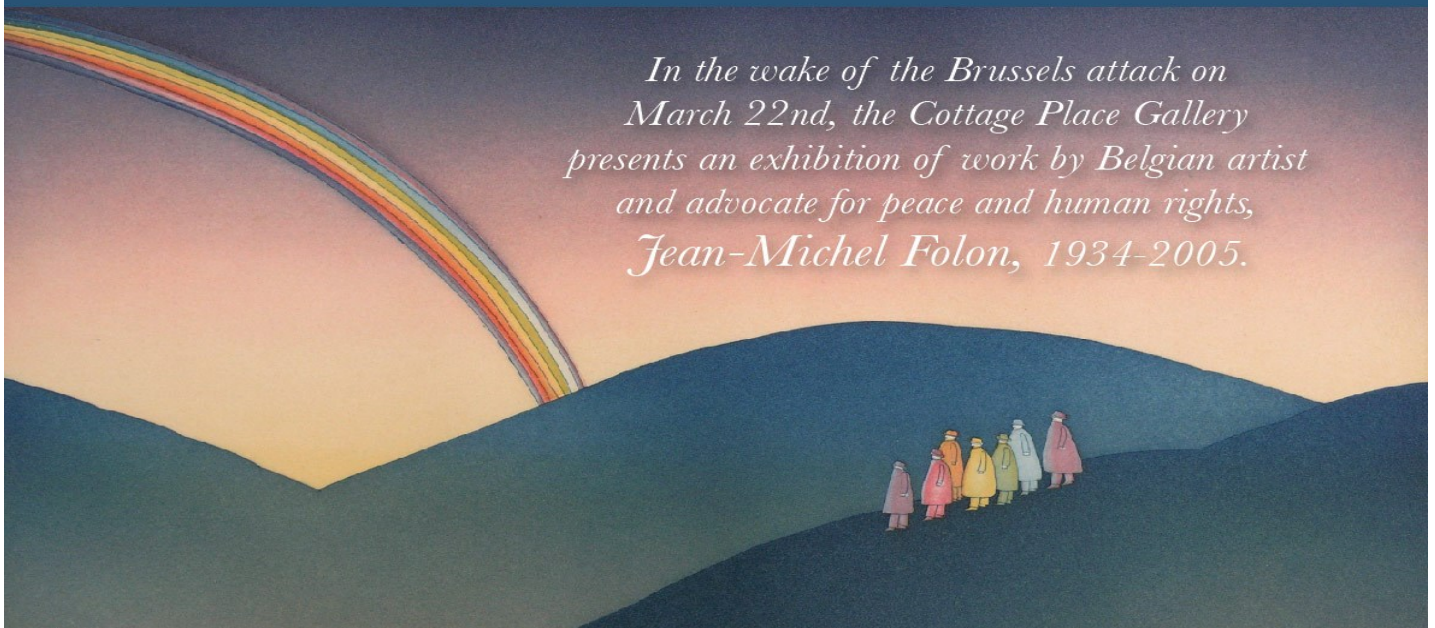
MINISTRY COUNCIL

CIRCLE OF LIFE

We are saddened to hear of the loss of Kristen Plumley's father last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with her, Jeff and the family.

Our condolences go out to Martin Walker who lost his mother last Friday. Please click [here](#) if you would like to read his mother's obituary.

THIS MONTH AT THE COTTAGE PLACE GALLERY



We offer the words below from the UUA International Office, and call for peace and unity against violence and hatred, especially anti-Muslim hate and prejudice that targets refugees and immigrants of all backgrounds.

“On this day of extreme violence in Brussels, which follows brutal events in many countries in recent months, the UUA adds its voice to the interreligious witness for healing and peace in Belgium and throughout the world. We reach out to all those who suffer and recommit to faithful solidarity with all peacemakers. Light a candle. Take a breath. Name the pain and sorrow. Walk towards peace.”

Rev. Eric Cherry, Director of the UUA International Office, March 22, 2016.

MINISTRY COUNCIL

Upcoming Services

- April 3rd **“Whence, Whither, and In Between” - The Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson and Ms. Johanna Seale, DRE**
The Interim Minister and Director of Religious Education will dialogue on where Unitarian Universalism and this Society were a generation or two ago, where they are now, and the future that we face. The Time for all Ages will be a Service of Naming and Dedication for Layla, daughter of Tara and Farshad Mansouri. Musician: Ron Levy, piano
- April 10th **“Covenant, Commitment, and Community” - The Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson**
This is a New Member Sunday and the service will explore what it means to be a member of a liberal religious community like the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood. If you have been thinking of joining and haven't yet signed the membership book, please call Ann Pareti or Dr. Johnson. Musicians: Ron Levy, piano; Mario Correa, trumpet and David De Mair, trombone-“The Elizabethan Notebook” of Eric Ewazen.
- April 17th **“Why are Your Schools Different from Mine?” - Junius W. Williams, Esq.**
Sixty-one years after Brown vs. Board of Education, the struggle for equity in education continues. Mr. Williams offers insight into high schools in Bergen County and Newark as well as a more comprehensive view of disparate educational quality in our nation. Musician: Ron Levy, piano
- April 24th **“Getting to the Wilderness” - Reflections on Passover - The Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson**
Passover is a holy day central to Judaism. It is about slavery and the fight from slavery. It is also the start of a long period in the wilderness before reaching the Promised Land. What does it mean to live in the wilderness? Might the wilderness be more important than the Promised Land?

This service, on the second day of Passover, will also take note of Yom HaShoah, which falls on May 5th this year. There will be a community Yom HaShoah service on the evening of May 1st. Details to follow. Musicians: Ron Levy, piano and Sarah Davol, oboe



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

~Our Generous Community~

Thank you

Wow, thank you and congratulations! You, the members the USR, raised a total of \$1,655.00 for the Advocates for Children. We gave from the special collection offering plate \$1,155; plus one member sent directly to ACNJ a \$500 donation. ACNJ, nonpartisan and not-for-profit, provides research, information and advocacy for legislative and systems change on behalf of vulnerable children so that they may live in a safe, healthy, community that educates, values and nurtures them. ACNJ's mission and work fully align with our congregation's commitment to "Black Lives Matter" as well as reproductive justice. I applaud all the members of the congregation that helped provide this investment in justice for children in NJ. You can sign up for their important advocate alerts, make a donation or volunteer at acnj.org ACNJ is a needed and positive voice for children in NJ. Thank you! Bob Jones

Plate Collections

Once a month the USR plate collection is donated to a particular cause or organization nominated by members of the congregation and voted by the Social Responsibilities Council. This month's collection on April 3rd will go to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy, a nonprofit land trust in the Upper Delaware River region. The Conservancy works with landowners and communities to protect clean water, working farms and forests, and wildlife habitat throughout the region so vital to those living downstream as well. They host a number of educational events throughout the year, including the popular Eagle Watch bus tours, as well as workshops for landowners to learn about stewardship of their lands. For more information on the plate collection process contact Carol Loscalzo, chair of the Social Responsibilities Council.

Thank you for Volunteering for Family Promise

Thank you all for volunteering! As many times as we've done this, something different always happens. Jim Campanella brought his guitar and spent some time teaching one of the kids how to play. Ann Pareti and her son and one of his friends came. Ann brought beadwork for the girls and one of the moms also was very interested. The boys played nerf football and other games. Betsy brought cupcakes to decorate and the kids really got into this (it's always a mess, but fun!). My favorite moment was when a 10-year-old girl made a 3 layer cupcake for one of the United Methodist volunteers. When he hesitated about eating it, mostly because the other kids had ALSO given him cupcakes, she told him to "Man up and eat that cupcake!" Thanks to our cooks, Lainie Mataras and her twin sons, and Judy Scanlan, who did a wonderful job. And also thanks to our overnights, Elisabeth Mannschott and Bob Shoemaker and my husband, Steve Jackson, who always volunteers for our toughest job to fill.

The Forces for Good have Prevailed!

On Sunday, March 13th, the Social Responsibilities Council asked the congregation to write letters to their senators petitioning that they OPPOSE Senator Roberts' (R-KS) bill S.764/S.2607/S.2609 which would preempt states' food package labeling on Genetically Engineered food.

And you came through! Thirty-nine letters were faxed to each senator. On 3/16/16 Senators Menendez and Booker voted to block the bill it and failed in the Senate. This was a very important vote, so thank you! Sincerely, Stephanie Byers

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

A Celebration to honor the Life of Tyler Clementi

Please join us on April 24, 2016, 2:30 p.m. at the Westside Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood, NJ for a concert to benefit the work of the Tyler Clementi Foundation. The Tyler Clementi Foundation's main focus is to end all online and offline bullying in schools, workplaces and faith communities. Using educational partnerships, awareness programs, public dialogues and research to create the safe, respectful and supportive social environment that all students and vulnerable youth deserve.

The concert, put on by Tyler's Suite, is a nine-piece choral work dedicated to the memory of Tyler Clementi, a talented young musician who died of suicide after becoming the victim of cyber bullying. Tyler was a talented violinist, winning many awards and scholarships. He performed and actively participated in many high school and community musical events.

Admission to the concert is free for high school students, \$5 for college students and \$20 suggested donation for adults. Click [here](#) for more details.

Not too Early to Send a Plate Collection Application

In 2009, the USR Board granted the Social Responsibilities Council (SRC) approval to use the Offertory Collection at Sunday services to collect money for social justice causes, as determined by the SRC. Since then, the congregation has responded generously. During the 2014-15 congregational year we donated \$13,441.00 to 14 plate collections.

The deadline to submit applications for the next cycle is Wednesday, **May 4, 2016**. The Council will consider all requests made by members and friends of the USR. Please think about what social justice causes you are involved with and complete an application. The cause should be consistent with the mission of USR to be "a beacon of justice and love in the world". For full criteria, consult the Plate Collection Guidelines which can be found on the USR website (SRC webpage). The application form is available on the USR website or at the SRC table. If you would like the Council to consider an organization to receive a plate collection please complete this form and submit it to the office or send to Carol Loscalzo, SRC chair.

UULMNJ Board Members Needed

Would you like to be directly involved in helping to shape the important legislative work of our UU Legislative Ministry. Board Members are needed to help guide the work. Contact Marty Rothfelder, chair of the Nominating Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of New Jersey (UULMNJ) if you are interested in serving on the board.

The Board currently has about 8 meetings a year in person, 4 meetings scheduled by conference call, and a retreat scheduled. The monthly meetings are currently in the evening at 7pm in East Brunswick. Generally Board members are expected to be part of the work of running the organization (i.e. beyond attending meetings) and to be involved in the fund raising for the organization. Please e-mail Marty Rothfelder at mcrothfelder@verizon.net or call 908-456-2925 if you are interested.

SHARE FUNDRAISER

Just Desserts- A Matinee of Soulful Sounds and Sweet Delights has become the Signature Event for SHARE and the third time is the charm! If you cannot come, please consider donating items for the gift baskets or purchase a \$25 ticket for a senior resident living at one of the two SHARE houses. Check out this [invitation](#) and please respond. See page 11 to read the flyer. Thanks, Georgetta Walsh, SHARE, Inc., Advisory Board- Fundraising and Charitable Giving.

SHARE 
Independent Living for Active Seniors
www.shareridgewood.org

(201) 670-9605

IT'S TIME TO BUY YOUR TICKET!

See Rita Bernstein During Coffee Hour

rita_bernstein@yahoo.com



SHARE, Inc. 2016 Fundraiser

Just Desserts - A Matinee of Sweet Delights and Soulful Sounds

Saturday, April 16th 2:00-5:00 PM

Anderson Hall at the Unitarian Society

113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ

\$25 Admission Includes Entertainment, Desserts & Beverages.

50/50 and Prize Raffles will be sold.

If you cannot come, please consider donating items for the gift baskets or purchase a \$25 ticket for a senior resident living at one of the two SHARE houses. Click [here](#) to view invitation and RSVP.

**SOCIETY CAFE
CONCERT SERIES
2015-16 SEASON PRESENTS...**



ALACORDE PIANO TRIO

**Jee Sun Lee, *violin* Suji Kim, *cello*
Jacqueline Schiller-Audi, *piano***

CD
Release
Party



Saturday, April 23rd

Concert at 8 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m.

The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood

113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ

\$20 in advance via PayPal on our site:

www.societycafeconcertseries.com

\$25 at the door

\$5 at the door for ages 12-17, must be accompanied by an adult



**Please patronize
our sponsors**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:00 Pastoral Care Seminar/Anderson
3 10:00 Service 11:45 Connections Mtg./ Youth Rm	4 12:30 Understanding Human Behavior?/ Fellowship Rm 7:00 USR Board Mtg/Conf. Rm 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm	5 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Upstairs Mtg Rm 7:30 Connections Group/Youth Rm	6 7:30 One Book USR/Upstairs Mtg Rm 7:30 Connections/ Youth Rm 7:30 Writer's Grp/ Conf. Rm	7	8	9
10 10:00 Service 11:15 Town Hall Mtg/ Anderson 11:15 Reproductive Justice Mtg/Conf. Rm 11:45 Connections/Youth Rm	11 12:30 Understanding Human Behavior?/ Fellowship Rm 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm	12 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Conf. Rm 7:00 CYRE/ Youth Rm	13 7:30 Writer's Grp/ Conf. Rm	14 1:00 LIFFT Meeting/Fellowship Rm	15	16 2:00 SHARE Fundraiser/Anderson
17 10:00 Service 11:30 Peace & Justice Mtg/Conf. Rm 11:45 Connections/Youth Rm 2:00 Art Reception/ Anderson	18 12:30 Understanding Human Behavior?/ Fellowship Rm 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm	19 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Conf. Rm 7:30 Connections Group/Youth Rm	20 7:30 Connections/ Youth Rm 7:30 Writer's Grp/ Conf. Rm	21	22 12:00 Racial Justice Luncheon/Anderson	23 9:00 Leadership Development Workshop/Fellowship 8:00 Society Café Concert/Anderson
24 10:00 Service 11:45 Connections/Youth Rm 12:00 RE Vision Workshop/RE	25 12:30 Understanding Human Behavior?/ Fellowship Rm 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm	26 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Conf. Rm	27 7:30 Writer's Grp/ Conf. Rm	28 1:00 LIFFT Meeting/Fellowship Rm	29	30

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Unitarian Society of Ridgewood

Mission Statement

Growing in mind and spirit,
We act together as a beacon for justice and love,
Transforming self and world. Adopted May 17, 2009

Invitation to Participate

Welcome! For over a hundred years this Society has been a place where free-thinking, broad-minded persons have come to participate in a vibrant, liberal religious community. In fulfillment of our current congregational mission we create a safe and loving environment that supports personal growth and provides ways for each individual to make a difference in the larger community.

We offer a stimulating Sunday service, an excellent religious education program for children and youth, and many educational, spiritual and social activities for adults. Every Sunday our Social Responsibilities Council has a table set up during Social Hour with information about social justice and charitable opportunities.

Anti-Racist Congregation

This Society is an [anti-racist congregation](#) committed to reflecting this commitment in the life and culture of the entire organization. Adopted May, 2002.

Living the Welcoming

We have been a Welcoming Congregation since 1998, supporting the rights of bisexual, gay, lesbian and transgender people.

Safe Congregation

This Society is a Safe Congregation where practices and procedures serve to ensure all members, friends, adults, children and youth are treated with respect and protected from harassment and abuse.



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NOW accepting articles for April 24th deadline
@ usr.membership1@gmail.com