



March 2020

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL

First Wednesday Brown bag Luncheon – March 4, 2020



Please come to the next First Wednesday Brown-bag Luncheon on March 4, 2020 to be hosted by Brietta Savoie at 1 p.m. at her home. She will provide dessert and beverages. Please R.S.V.P. to let her know that you are coming and let her give you directions if needed. Whether you are new or an old-timer, give us a try. You will meet other newcomers and old-timers. All are welcome.

UUA General Assembly (GA) Delegates Wanted: Early Bird Registration Ends March 15th

Attendees at the General Assembly learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. This year's GA is in Providence Rhode Island, three to four hours drive from Ridgewood.

"*Rooted, Inspired, & Ready!*" is the theme for General Assembly in June 2020. We are in touch with our theological roots, we are engaged in transforming our faith, and we are fired up to take action in the wider world." Delegates can go to Providence and are responsible for their own transportation, housing, food and registration costs or they can be an off-site delegate and just be responsible for the off-site registration cost.

Registration costs go up on March 16th. There is a new payment plan.

For more information, click on the following link:

<https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/ga flyer2020.pdf>

CIRCLE OF LIFE

Doris Griffin's daughter, Karen Bell, died from cancer on Thursday, February 14th. A funeral mass was held at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Maywood on February 19th.

Tony Coppelino, spouse of longtime USR member Lorraine Coppelino, who provided care in the Nursery and was active in the (Women's Wisdom Circle of the past) passed away on September 1, 2019 at their home in Santa Cruz, CA. Tony earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, at Pratt Institute in 1967, and then his Ph.D. at the University of California - Santa Cruz in 1972. After working two decades in Computer Systems in NYC and living in Ridgewood, Tony, Lorraine and their children, Marcel, Liliane and Clarice returned to Santa Cruz in 2005. In his retirement, he devoted much of his time to maintaining an outstanding garden where he practiced fruit tree grafting and seed collecting. Highly resourceful and inventive, Tony enjoyed creating practical tools for greater efficiency in the garden. He spent his days exploring abstract concepts, theorizing, experimenting, playing with ideas in economics and natural science, practicing meditation and studying plant medicine. Lorraine and family can be reached at lorrainecoppelino@gmail.com.

REALM Software

Please log into Realm if you haven't already. Go to onrealm.org or use the link on the USR web page. Pledges will be handled in Realm this year so please get acquainted with the software NOW.

Brief Realm Instructions

- To log on the first time: You should have received an email invitation to Realm. Use the link in the email to set up a password. Or, use the Realm link on the USR webpage. From the Realm logon window enter your email and click Forgot Password. This will allow you to set up a password.
- Once you have a password: From the initial window, click your name in the upper right corner. From the list that appears choose "MY PROFILE". From here you can upload a photo (by clicking on the square where your photo should be) and then click EDIT PROFILE. When editing your profile remember to update both sections, CONTACT INFO and PERSONAL INFO.
- There will be a lot more to do on Realm soon. Stay tuned.

If you need HELP, please contact Dawn Walter or visit "Realm Tech Support" at coffee hour for the next few weeks.

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Fellowship Feast - March 21st, 6 PM

Join us for a night of Feasting and Fellowship to celebrate the success of our Funding our Mission Annual Budget Drive. This year the Fellowship Feast will include an hour long social time followed by a relaxing pot-luck by table. Table hosts will decorate their tables and coordinate what everyone will bring. The Fellowship Feast is a great time to meet new people, catch up with old friends, and enjoy good food and company. Childcare will be provided and the children will have a Feast too. RSVP to the Evite sent via email or to Laura Krag or Suzanne Samuels if you would like to attend and/or be a table host. The table hosts will contact attendees in the coming weeks to coordinate the food for their tables. Looking forward to a fun evening!

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

March Plate Collection

March Plate collection recipient is **Passaic County CASA**. Abused and neglected children need more than child welfare, court systems and education systems can provide. Passaic County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) advocate, facilitate and influence life changing decisions for children in the foster care system. Through their efforts, CASA volunteers help abused or neglected children acquire the services they need and achieve permanency in a safe and nurturing home as quickly as possible. Please donate generously.

Family Promise

It's our time again! We have two families to care for. We will need cooks and overnights on **Sunday night, March 8 and Monday night, March 9**. Not ready for all the responsibility :-), then just come and help out! We are at United Methodist Church in Ridgewood, from 5pm until around 8pm for cooks, and until 6am for overnights. Please contact Betsy Longendorfer to volunteer. Thanks!


SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

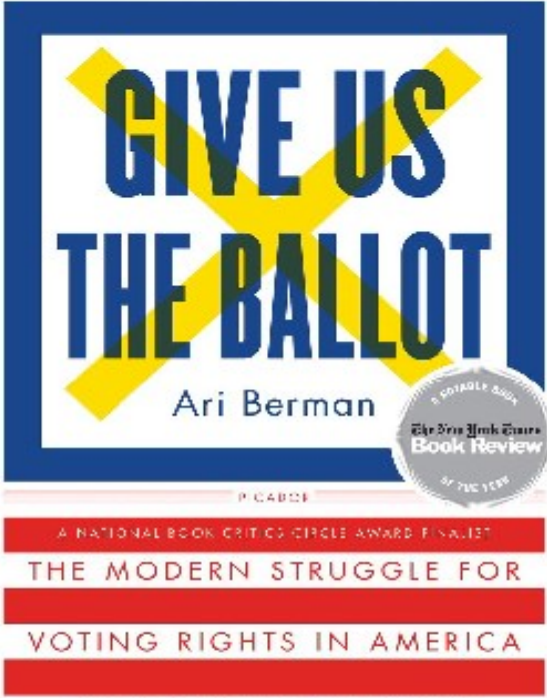
"Give Us The Ballot: The Modern Struggle for Voting Rights in America" - March 4, 2020

The Racial Justice Committee is excited to be hosting Ari Berman, author of "Give Us The Ballot: The Modern Struggle for Voting Rights in America" on Wednesday, March 4 at 7:15 p.m. at the Ridgewood Library. Mr. Berman is a nationally known expert on voter suppression. His topic for the evening will be "Voter Suppression and the 2020 Election." The Racial Justice Committee feels that this year especially, the issue of voter suppression and voting rights is paramount to an equitable election in November. Please join us.

ARI BERMAN

at the **Ridgewood Public Library**






Wednesday, March 4: 7:00-8:30pm

Register now at www.ridgewoodlibrary.org


Please join us for a conversation with Ari Berman—Senior Reporter at *Mother Jones* and contributor to *The New York Times*, *Rolling Stone*, *Politico*, *The Atlantic* and *The Guardian*—about voter suppression, the 2020 election and other important topics in his book *Give Us the Ballot*.

Book sale & signing courtesy of Bookends

This event is cosponsored by the Racial Justice Committee of the
Unitarian Society of Ridgewood



**Ridgewood
Public
Library**



**RACIAL
JUSTICE
COMMITTEE**

THE UNITARIAN
SOCIETY OF
RIDGEWOOD

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SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

Thank You!

\$1303 was sent to CAMP YDP, the community based non-profit, that serves Paterson children by providing full-day preschool, after school supervision and a summer program. Below is the letter sent to USR from Sherise Alleyne, CAMP director.

February 4, 2020

There are no words to express our utmost gratitude and appreciation. Your generous donation helps to continue our mission in providing quality programs to children in the First Ward in Paterson. With your donation, we can purchase program supplies for our enrichment activities, snacks, and curriculum resources. We are forever grateful to you for over 50 years of support and generosity, and we look forward to another 50 years.

Thank you,
CAMP YDP Staff and Participants

March 22nd Sunday Service

The Reproductive Justice Committee is pleased to announce the March 22 service. Gaby Garcia-Vera, the States Program Manager at Catholics for Choice (CFC), will be our guest speaker. The title of his address is **"Compassion and Conscience: Abortion in Good Faith."**

Gaby coordinates CFC's strategic engagement at the state and local level. Working with prochoice Catholic policymakers, state partners and activists, Gaby engages, educates and mobilizes people across the United States to advance sexual and reproductive rights. He employs his wealth of experience forging and sustaining coalitions, mobilizing grassroots activists and engaging state policymakers to deliver analysis and develop and implement CFC's Domestic State Program through statements, positions and resources that make the moral case for abortion rights and access.

At 12 noon, the Reproductive Justice Committee will be offering a panel to further explore reproductive health issues.

Save the Date - Panel Discussion: Sunday, March 22, 12 noon

The Reproductive Justice Committee invites you to a panel discussion, **"Reproductive Rights: Abortion Care and Access 2020 -- Facts and Messaging."**

Support for legal abortion is the highest it has been in the last two decades. At the same time, abortion bans are passing in some states, proactive legislation is being enacted in others, and court cases are making their way to a Supreme Court hostile for abortion rights. The speakers will address this political landscape with special emphasis on the need to solidify abortion access in NJ. In addition, the full spectrum of abortion care will be described. The speakers will also guide us to explore, understand and then articulate our own values about reproductive rights.

Presenters will be *Noa'a Shimoni, M.D., M.P.H Associate Professor and Interim Chair, Department of Family Medicine Director, Student Health Services at Rutgers Health Sciences Campus at Newark; Sarah Best, Legislative and Political Manager Planned Parenthood of Northern, Central and Southern NJ and Planned Parenthood Action Fund of NJ; Gaby Garcia-Vera, Domestic States Program Manager at Catholics for Choice.*

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

Northern NJ Sanctuary Committee

- 1) The NNJSC is still looking for a second person (in addition to Elizabeth Ames) to sit on the board of trustees. Please address any questions to Elizabeth Ames.
- 2) The NNJSC is looking for someone interested in hosting (opening their home to) a new client, an asylum candidate. JS is a 31 year old man, born in Cameroon where French is the native language. He left a wife and 3 children there, (where he worked selling food), because he was persecuted by police and incarcerated because he was part of a Human Rights group that fought against corruption and violence. He spent about a year in Mexico, where he quickly learned Spanish. When he crossed the Texas border, he was detained, April 2019 until his release on parole September 2020 from the Essex County Jail and is desperate to find housing here. His English is limited. He is willing to work any job.

Environmental Justice Committee

Carl the Composter

Carl needs some TLC!

Our composter needs some occasional but consistent care, such as adding leaves and water to the mix, giving the contents a turn of the wheel, checking for odors and making sure Carl is doing his job. These simple tasks won't take up much time and can be done on your schedule. No experience necessary, we will show you what to do. The Sunday coffee crew will be adding to the compost each Sunday so that isn't part of the job.

So who wants to adopt Carl? If you have an interest in keeping Carl happy, well fed and productive please contact Marilyn Maney for details.



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL



A letter from Immigration Task Force

Ira,

In 2018, New Jersey launched a new, publicly funded legal defense program for individuals who are detained and facing deportation in New Jersey; this effort is called "Universal Representation."

Because of that effort -- strongly supported by UUs across NJ via our Immigration Justice Task Force -- hundreds of families will be able to remain together, and more immigrants languishing now in New Jersey jails and detention centers will be able to plead their case with a competent lawyer by their side.

However, the current funding of \$3.1 million only covers a fraction of the thousands of indigent immigrants who remain behind bars, facing not only deportation but the loss of their livelihoods and their families falling deeper into poverty and despair. Right here in the Garden State.

We need NJ's legislature and administration to reaffirm their investment in keeping families together and fighting back against a nationally-coordinated, politically cynical attack on our immigrant brothers and sisters.

How? By continuing to increase funding levels in the next state budget so the Universal Representation program can succeed at a moment in our nation's and state's history when it is needed most.

This coming Tuesday, February 25 the NJ Governor will unveil his annual budget. It is critical that as many Unitarian Universalists and our allies reach out to Governor Murphy's office to urge him to allocate the (relatively) small amount of an additional \$9-10 million dollars to the Deportation Defense Fund (Universal Representation).

- In faith, with love, and for justice!

Ted Fetter (UU Princeton) and Peggy Hayden (UU Montclair), Chair and Vice Chair and Rev. Rob Gregson, Director

Immigration Justice Task Force of UU FaithAction NJ

[Email Gov. Murphy](#)

**SOCIETY CAFE
CONCERT SERIES
2019-20 SEASON PRESENTS...**



3RD ANNUAL SINGER/SONGWRITER FESTIVAL

**FEATURING
BROOKE CAMPBELL, MITCHELL MILCH & KIM YARSON**



Saturday, March 7th

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

The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood

113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ

\$20 in advance via PayPal on our site:

www.uuridgewood.org/society-cafe

\$25 at the door

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



**Please patronize
our sponsors**



CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

TO BENEFIT THE UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF RIDGEWOOD

Sunday, March 8, 2020

3:00-5:30pm

Anderson Auditorium



Ron Levy
Pianist



Don Mokrynski
Clarinetist



Lanny Paykin
Cellist



Kristen Plumley
Soprano

Featuring music by
Gershwin, Handel, Chopin, Schubert, and Frühling

Entry fee: \$35

Payable by check to the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood
(Auction #16 in the memo line) or at the door.

Light food and drink will be served immediately after the concert.

Location:
113 Cottage Place
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
www.uuridgewood.org

the
UNITARIAN
SOCIETY of
RIDGEWOOD

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1</i> 10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi 11:30 Circle Implemen- tation Meeting/ Anderson Hall	<i>2</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm. 7:00 USR Board Meeting/Conf. Room 7:45 Zen Medita- tion/Fellowship Room	<i>3</i> 7:30 Covenant Grp/Youth Room	<i>4</i> 7:00 Racial Justice Event at Ridgewood Library	<i>5</i> 7:45 Adult Choir Practice/ Fellowship	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 8:00 Society Café Concert/Anderson Hall
<i>8</i> 10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi 11:30 Circle Implemen- tation Meeting/ Anderson Hall 11:30 Reproductive Justice Comm./ Conference Rm. 3:00 Service Auction Concert/Anderson	<i>9</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm. 7:45 Zen Medita- tion/Fellowship Rm.	<i>10</i> 7:00 Covenant Group/ Conference Room	<i>11</i> 7:00 SRC Coun- cil/Conference Room 7:30 Covenant Group/Upstairs Mtg. Room	<i>12</i> 7:45 Adult Choir Practice/ Fellowship Rm.	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>15</i> 10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi 11:30 Circle Implemen- tation Meeting/ Anderson Hall	<i>16</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm. 7:00 Sunday Service Comm./ Upstairs Mtg. Room 7:45 Zen Medita- tion/Fellowship Room	<i>17</i> 7:00 Covenant Group/ Conference Room 7:30 Covenant Group/Youth Room	<i>18</i> 7:30 Covenant Group/Youth Room	<i>19</i> 7:45 Adult Choir Practice/ Fellowship Rm.	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 6:00 Fellowship Feast/Anderson Hall
<i>22</i> 10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi 11:30 Circle Implemen- tation Meeting/ Anderson Hall 11:15 Environmental Justice Comm./Conf. Room 12:30 Reproductive Justice Comm./ Fellowship Room	<i>23</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm. 7:45 Zen Medita- tion/Fellowship Room	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> 7:45 Adult Choir Practice/ Fellowship Rm.	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>29</i> 10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi 11:30 Circle Implemen- tation Mtg./Anderson 11:15 Membership Comm./Conf. Room	<i>30</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm. 7:45 Zen Medita- tion/Fellowship Room	<i>31</i>				

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Society Office Hours: 9:00—3:00, Monday-Friday

Website www.uuridgewood.org

Board of Trustees

Sally Lewis, President	Rose Griffith, Trustee
Dawn Walter, Vice President	Kristin Bluemel, Trustee
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Bernie Josefsberg, Secretary	

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1	Membership Council First Wednesday Brown bag Lunch UUA General Assembly Circle of Life
Page 2	Realm Stewardship Council Fellowship Feast Social Responsibilities Council March Plate collection Family Promise
Page 3-6	Social Responsibilities Council Racial Justice Event March 4 Thank you March 22 Service March 22 Panel discussion NNJSC Environmental Justice Committee Letter from Immigration Task Force
Page 7	Society Café Concert
Page 8	Chamber Music Concert
Page 9	CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Page 10	STAFF/BOARD LISTING INDEX

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.



113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ 07450



NOW accepting articles for March 20th deadline
@ usr.secretary@gmail.com