



December 2018

## MINISTRY COUNCIL

### CIRCLE OF LIFE

We wish to acknowledge the passing of long-time member, Bob Demarest. Bob was a husband and father and grandfather, a renowned artist, an avid fly fisherman, a genuine and true friend, and a wonderful interlocutor, among so much more. I know that all of us will miss him terribly. We will keep you posted with information about a memorial.

## CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

You are invited to participate in the **Annual USR Members Art Show**, which will be on view beginning in mid-December through mid-January. USR members, friends and youth are invited to submit one or two works of any medium (paintings, drawings, collage, photography, etc.), framed with a wire on the back for hanging. **Artwork must be brought to the USR office by Sunday, December 16th.**

Please contact Carol Wolf with questions.

### Office Holiday Schedule

The office will be closed from Tuesday, December 25th until Tuesday, January 1st. Please contact Rev. Sarah via email at [usr.minister@gmail.com](mailto:usr.minister@gmail.com) if you have a pastoral need. Rev. Sarah will be working from home that week. Or, contact Ann Pareti at [usr.membership1@gmail.com](mailto:usr.membership1@gmail.com).

## MINISTRY COUNCIL

### USR Holiday Party

Join us right after the service on December 2nd for a special holiday party. Bring a tasty treat to go with the hot chocolate and coffee USR will provide. There will be crafts for the children and the rest of us will enjoy some time together as December begins.



### Upcoming Holiday Services

<b>December 2nd:</b>	Advent and Waiting
<b>December 9th:</b>	Hanukah and Making Miracles
<b>December 16th:</b>	The Unseen and what's beneath the surface
<b>December 23rd:</b>	Winter Solstice (All Ages)
<b>December 24th:</b>	Christmas Eve Service (5:30 p.m.) (All Ages)
<b>December 30th:</b>	Poetry by the Fire

### "Poetry by the Fire: Return to the 100 Acre Wood"

As we look forward to the hope of a New Year, return for a brief time with us to the genesis of self and soul; childhood. Remember how the world looked through the eyes of a child and reconnect with your own sense of value and meaning. Join us, along with Christopher Robin, Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends for our annual Poetry by the Fire service on Sunday, December 30 2018, at 11 am. Come and read either yours or your favorite writer's poetry or piece of prose. Read whatever touches your heart, whatever age or wisdom the poem represents. For adults of all ages. Childcare will be provided in nursery only for children 6 and under.

## STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL



Please save the date for our annual Society auction Saturday evening, **January 26, 2019**. Snow date is Saturday, February 2, 2019.

Come and celebrate 51 years of fun and fellowship at the largest USR fundraiser! The link for the Auction Offering form is below and is due no later than **January 5th**. Items to offer might include dinners, bbq's, picnics, tickets to theatre and sporting events, vacation/getaway homes, etc.

Please click [here](#) to submit your generous offerings for the Society auction. Thank you!

## MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL



### First Wednesday Brown-Bag Lunch

Please come to the next First Wednesday Brown-bag Luncheon on December 5, 2018 to be held by Lea McGough 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. Some of us are newcomers, some are old-timers. Hope to see you there. All are welcome.

### Welcome New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood as of November, 2018: Katrina and Sean Northrup, Libby and William Ortiz, Gina Damasco, Meg Schaefer and Stephen Katter.

We will hold a New Member Ceremony on December 16th.



## SAFE CONGREGATION RESPONSE TEAM

### AED/CPR Training

It is that time of year again. Please read and consider registering for this training. The Safe Congregation Response Team is offering AED/CPR training on Saturday, **January 5, 2019** (snow date: January 12) from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. It will include basic CPR for adults, children and infants as well as AED training. The team is pleased to offer this excellent training free of charge to the first 10 people who register. To register, email Chandrika Chowdhry at [usr.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:usr.secretary@gmail.com). Questions? Email Carol Loscalzo. See flyer on page 10.

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

### December Plate Collections

Community of Friends in Action, Inc. (CoFiA) is the recipient of the December plate collections.



CoFiA is a group that helps immigrants in the Eastern Bergen County area and also works for better immigration policy. Many of you are familiar with the group because USR has supported them from the very beginning.

As you can imagine, this is a very difficult time for immigrants, both documented and undocumented. The fears that have continued to arise from Trump's highly publicized rhetoric about the caravans and policies on asylum seekers are heightened for good reason. Immigrants continue to be arrested and deported at large rates. The administration had a plan that would halt a special federal immigration program that has allowed hundred of thousand of immigrants to legally live and work in the U.S. for decades. While this was recently halted by a federal judge, there is no telling what the administration will do next.

CoFiA is talking with people on an individual basis and in small meetings, and plans to present several "Know Your Rights" sessions at the local library, to try to allay some of the more unrealistic fears. But none of us know what will actually happen.

As the needs continue to grow, our services continue to be more in demand, and we are operating without a base, so our need for funds also grows. Click the link to view the website <https://www.cofia-nj.org/>

Thank you to the Unitarian Society for sharing the December plate. We appreciate it!

### 2018 Annual Children's Aid and Family Services Gift Drive is here!

Each year USR hosts a gift drive in support of the vulnerable children and families supported by Children's Aid and Family Services. These gifts and show of support have a tremendous impact on each and every child and the families that need to pay critical living expenses instead of purchasing holiday gifts for the family. In some instances, families make difficult decisions about how to spend their limited funds. When this happens, birthday gifts, school field trips, and holiday gifts, seen as less of a necessity, are eliminated from the budget. But to a child, that one gift can make all the difference in the world.

This year we are sponsoring 50 children, youth, and adults. Please contact Sean Brennan if you would like to support the drive this year. Sean will also be in coffee hour where you can signup in-person. Thank you for your continued support!

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

### Words of Choice is Coming Soon!

Sunday, January 13 at 2:00 p.m.

Please join the Reproductive Justice Committee and our co-sponsors, Northern NJ NOW and National Council of Jewish Women, Essex Section, for a wonderful event, "Words of Choice". This theater group will perform skits focusing on right to choose and reproductive health. They will be humorous, tender and informative. We will hear from Lynn Roberts, PhD., our reproductive justice guru who has many times shared her expertise with USR. There will be time for discussion. See flyer on page 9.

### Deadline Extended for Plate Collection Applications

The deadline for submitting applications for plate collections is now Wednesday, December 5th. As always the Social Responsibilities Council will consider all requests for social justice causes that are consistent with the mission of USR to be "a beacon of justice and love in the world". Applications are on the website. Complete the form and submit it to the office or send to Carol Loscalzo. Questions: ask Carol or any member of the SRC. All social justice chairs and co-chairs are on the Council. Click [here](#) for the application.



### Save the Dates (come to one or more)

The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration of Ridgewood and Glen Rock  
has been expanded.

It will start:

- Friday night, January 18th: the Ridgewood library will show the film "King in the Wilderness" about the last 18 months of his life.
- Saturday the New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir Grewal will speak in the afternoon (time tbd) at All Saints Church in Glen Rock.
- Sunday afternoon (time tbd) there will be a family gospel concert at Mt Bethel Baptist Church, and
- Monday 1/21 come to the traditional service at 10 a.m. at Ridgewood's United Methodist Church. The speaker will be Baptist minister Rev. Gregory Jackson, president of the Hackensack Fellowship of Black Churches.

### Racial Justice Committee

Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 6 at 7 p.m. in the Reeb Conference Room. We have several exciting program options we'll be considering. Two more people joined us this Fall. Please come if this social justice arena interests you.

# SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

## Environmental Justice Committee Invites you to Friday Night at the Movies "Revenge of the Electric Car"



This absorbing movie goes behind the closed doors of Nissan, GM, and Tesla Motors to chronicle the story of the visions and visionaries who dream about a future with electric cars. Stay for an update presented by Paul Rosengren who can tell us what is happening NOW with electric and hybrid cars.

**Friday, Dec. 7, 2018**

7:00 pm, Anderson

childcare available with one week notice

See flyer on page 8.



## Vegetarian Potluck Follow-Up

Many thanks to the organizers of our first potluck dedicated to an awareness of ethical eating! Kudos to Jeri Cohn, Elyse Pleasic, Jackie Nadler, Judy Silver and their helpers for a fun and successful evening!



Jeri Cohn led us in a friendly trivia competition between the "peas" and the "carrots". The "carrots" can boast about their win!

**Thanks to Ira Mendelsberg of the Hunger and Homeless Committee for coordinating a food donation drive at the dinner.**

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

### Peace and Justice Committee

On Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Claude Cesard and Anita Young attended the First Friends International Luncheon held in Montclair, NJ. First Friends is a Catholic organization which has been working with immigrant detainees and people seeking asylum. USR has been involved with this organization for over 10 years and members of our congregation have visited detainees at various locations including the Bergen County Correctional Center, Hudson County Correction Center and the Elizabeth Detention Center. Claude served as interpreter for a young man, Nicolas from Cabinda, a province of Angola, which is trying to recede. Nicolas was recently released from the Elizabeth Detention Center. He spoke about his feeling of isolation until he saw the information about First Friends. He thought "oh I will have a friend!" As he began speaking about First Friends, he was beaming and smiling as he felt that this encounter changed his life. He didn't realize initially how important First Friends would be in his life. Since his release, they have provided him with shelter, food and clothing. He is anxious now to begin his new life in America. Anyone interested in learning more about First Friends, please contact Anita Young.



### Rally for Jorge Chajon

Debbie Goodell and Anita Young attended a rally in Newark on behalf of Jorge Chajon. Jorge came to the U.S. as a 13-year-old from Guatemala, making the dangerous journey to follow his parents. He was granted DACA status by the previous administration and has no criminal record. He has a U.S. citizen wife, a 2-year old and 10-month old child he has never visited outside of detention center visits. He was filling out the required paper work when his DACA papers expired. He has had 4 different lawyers due to lack of funds. His papers were filled out incorrectly and he was picked up by ICE. UU Faith Action initiated this action. Ministers of different faiths, Rabbi, and various UU ministers were present at the rally. Debbie and Anita tried to attend his final hearing; however, they were not allowed into the court room because of limited space. They allowed 6 people in and it was agreed that the clergy be present. First Friends, a Catholic organization, working with immigrants was present as well as an ACLU representative, Wings of Spirit and American Friends Association. Anita Young concluded that "this is the kind of work we should be doing as people of faith. We and those attending various functions learn more about other faiths and commitment to a better world through these kind of actions".





**THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE OF THE  
UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF RIDGEWOOD PRESENTS:**



**Friday,  
December  
7th, 2018 at  
7:00pm**

Anderson Hall (doors  
open at 6:30pm)

*Revenge of the Electric Car* talks to business leaders struggling through one of the most troubled periods of recent economic history. US automakers face an environment that's radically different from the cheap-oil days that ruled when GM developed its first electric vehicle. Now oil prices are running at historic highs, and governments around the world have begun to put some real muscle behind the idea of the electric car.

Join us for this compelling film, and stay for a follow-up discussion with presenter Paul Rosengren.

Light refreshments will be served. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

the  
UNITARIAN  
SOCIETY of  
RIDGEWOOD

Unitarian Society of Ridgewood  
113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
[www.uuridgewood.org](http://www.uuridgewood.org)



# words of choice

**Sunday, January 13, 2019**

Doors Open at 2:00 | Program begins at 2:30 pm

*A woman's right to choose soars in a tapestry of 12 powerful 'shorts' – serious and comic. These are stories from the heart: humorous and tender; poignant and riveting; from theater, spoken word, comedy poetry, oral history and journalism. Smart, funny, endangered!*

## **Reproductive Freedom is What We Want! –And What we Deserve!**

Are you looking forward to December and holiday plans? Think way beyond that, and mark your calendar NOW for the REAL event—a fascinating, moving, and (unfortunately) timely production by acting group Words of Choice sponsored by the Reproductive Justice Committee of the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, Northern New Jersey Chapter, National Organization for Women, and National Council of Jewish Women, Essex County Section.

**Speaker:** Lynn Roberts, PhD, Emeritus Board Member of SisterSong and co-editor, *Radical Reproductive Justice*

### **Location:**

Unitarian Society of Ridgewood  
113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
[www.uuridgewood.org](http://www.uuridgewood.org)

## **Sponsors:**

**REPRODUCTIVE  
JUSTICE  
COMMITTEE**

**THE UNITARIAN  
SOCIETY OF  
RIDGEWOOD**



Northern New Jersey Chapter

**NCJESSEX**  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

Child Care provided with 2 weeks notice. Please email Jeanne Nametz at [usr.dre1@gmail.com](mailto:usr.dre1@gmail.com)

# SAVE THE DATE SAVE A LIFE

A red square graphic with a white heart in the center. The text 'AED/CPR' is written in large white letters across the heart, and 'Training Opportunity' is written in smaller white letters below it. A white ECG line runs horizontally across the bottom of the red square.

**AED/CPR**  
Training Opportunity

**Saturday, January 5th, 2019**

Snow Date: Saturday, January 12th

## **FREE AED/CPR Training Opportunity**

for USR Members and Friends

Certification will cover adults, children and infants

## **Saturday, January 5, 2019**

## **9 am to 12 noon**

(Snow Date: Saturday, January 12th)

**Fellowship Room**  
The Unitarian Society  
of Ridgewood  
113 Cottage Place  
Ridgewood, NJ

To register, please email the USR secretary, Chandrika Chowdhry at [usr.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:usr.secretary@gmail.com) or call 201-444-6225.

Email Carol Loscalzo at [closcalzo2@aol.com](mailto:closcalzo2@aol.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Childcare available with two weeks notice:  
email [usr.dre1@gmail.com](mailto:usr.dre1@gmail.com)

Sponsored by the Safe Congregation Response Team

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> 9:00 Capital Drive Mtg/Fellowship  9:00 Zen Retreat/RE
<i>2</i> <b>10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi</b>  11:15 Holiday Party/Anderson and Fellowship	<i>3</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm  7:00 BOT Meeting/Conf. Rm  7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship	<i>4</i> 7:30 Connections/Youth Rm	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 7:00 Racial Justic/Conf. Rm  7:30 Adult Choir/Fellowship	<i>7</i> 7:00 Environmental Justice Movie/Anderson	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> <b>10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi</b>  11:30 Board Report Mtg/Anderson	<i>10</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm  7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 7:00 SRC Council Mtg/Conf. Rm	<i>13</i> 7:30 Adult Choir/Fellowship	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> <b>10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi</b>  11:45 P&J Mtg/Conf Rm	<i>17</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm  7:00 Sunday Service/Conf. Rm  7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship	<i>18</i> 7:30 Connections Group/Youth Rm	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 7:30 Adult Choir/Fellowship	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> <b>10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi</b>  11:30 Environmental Justice/Upstairs Mtg Rm	<i>24</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm  <b>5:30 Xmas Eve Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi</b>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> 7:30 Adult Choir/Fellowship	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> <b>10:00 Service - Poetry Service; Lay-led</b>	<i>31</i> 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm					



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

Website [www.uuridgewood.org](http://www.uuridgewood.org)

#### **Board of Trustees**

Sally Lewis, President	Mike Azzara, Trustee
Eric Fuhrman, Vice President	Laura Krag, Trustee
Peter Duran, Treasurer	Jackie Nadler, Trustee
Bernie Josefsberg, Secretary	Owen Uscher, Trustee
	Dawn Walter, Trustee

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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.



113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ 07450



**NOW accepting articles for 18th deadline**  
@ [usr.membership1@gmail.com](mailto:usr.membership1@gmail.com)