



December 2019

MINISTRY COUNCIL

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 8th.

Please contact Carol Wolf with questions.



Office Holiday Schedule

The office will be closed from Wednesday, December 25th until Wednesday, January 1st. Please contact Rev. Sarah via email at 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.

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL

First Wednesday Brown bag Luncheon – December 11



Please come to the next First Wednesday Brown-bag Luncheon in December - but please note that in December it will be held on the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of the month on December 11 to be hosted by Jan Bottcher 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 to give you directions if needed. We are both newcomers and old-timers. Hope to see you there.

MINISTRY COUNCIL

USR Holiday Party

Join us right after the service on December 8th 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

December 1: The Global Face of Unitarian Universalism
 December 8: Bodhi Day
 December 15: What is a miracle
 December 22: Miracle of Light
 December 24: Christmas Eve Social Hour 4:30 PM; Brass Quintet 5:00 PM;
 Christmas Eve Service 5:30 PM (All Ages)
 December 29: Poetry by the Fire

MINISTRY COUNCIL



Poetry by the Fire: Mary Oliver, In Memoriam
Sunday, December 29th at 10:00 am

As we gather together in warmth and friendship to look forward to the coming year, we remember and honor the gifted poet and Pulitzer Prize winner, Mary Oliver, who died on January 17th of this year. As most of you know, she was celebrated for her beautiful poems expressing her love for nature and the physical world, and the powerful bonds among all living things. Join us by the fire on Sunday, December 29, 2019 at 10:00 am. While the facilitators recite the poems of Mary Oliver, come and read either your own or your favorite writer's poetry or piece of prose, on any subject. Read what touches your heart. Please note this service is most appropriate for youth 6th grade and higher. There will be childcare for all other children.

SAFE CONGREGATION RESPONSE TEAM

Save the Date for AED/CPR Training: January 11, 2020!

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 11, 2020** (Snow date: January 18) from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. It will include basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training (CPR) for adults, children and infants as well as Automated External Defibrillator training. The team is pleased to offer this excellent training for the small charge of \$30 for each for the first 10 people who register. To register, email Chandrika Chowdhry at usr.secretary@gmail.com. Questions? Email Carol Loscalzo.

SAVE THE DATE SAVE A LIFE

AED/CPR

Training Opportunity

Saturday, January 11th, 2020

Snow Date: Saturday, January 18th

FREE AED/CPR Training Opportunity

for USR Members and Friends

Certification will cover adults, children and infants

Saturday, January 11, 2020

9 am to 12 noon

(Snow Date: Saturday, January 18th)

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 or call 201-444-6225.

Email Carol Loscalzo at closcalzo2@aol.com if you have any questions or require additional information.

Childcare available with two weeks notice:
email usr.dre1@gmail.com

Sponsored by the Safe Congregation Response Team

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY COUNCIL

Thank You!

The shared plate collection for the month of October was in concert with Social Justice weekend, "Disrupting Environmental Equality." This weekend was co-sponsored by the Environmental Justice Committee and the Racial Justice Committee. The Social Responsibilities Council approved that the plate collection would be split between Clean Water Fund and Paterson Habitat for Humanity. Each organization received \$590.90. Thank you to all who supported these organizations and USR.

Plate Collection December

The December shared plate collection will be given to '**Partners for Women and Justice**' which empowers low-income victims and survivors of domestic violence to build safe and secure futures. Partners is a public interest law firm. Its Legal Assistance program provides free, quality representation and assistance to low-income victims and survivors of domestic violence who seek Final Restraining Orders, fair orders for child support, and safe visitation and custody arrangements. These services are provided by Partners' staff attorneys as well as its network of over 130 volunteer attorneys in private practice. Thank you in advance for giving generously.

2019 Annual Children's Aid and Family Services Gift Drive is here!

As you know, each year the society 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 looking to provide gifts for 50 children, youth and adults. **The deadline to send gifts is December 6th.** If you would like to support a family this year please signup at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094AA5A72EA1FA7-usr2019> or contact Sean Brennan.

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

USR Annual Society Auction - January 25, 2020

Please Save the Date -- Saturday evening, January 25, 2020 for the annual Society Auction. Come and celebrate 52 Years of fun and fellowship at the largest USR fundraiser!

The forms for submitting your generous offerings will be available on the website on or about November 1st or click [here](#) to fill out auction offering forms now.

Looking forward to a great night!

Your Co-chairs,

Jeff Summerville and Suzanne Willis

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



TONY TRISCHKA

Of a Winter's Night Holiday Concert

with

Larry Cook, Tim Eriksen, Phoebe Hunt & Dominic Leslie



Sunday, December 15th

Concert at 7:30 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.uuridgewood.org/society-cafe

\$25 at the door

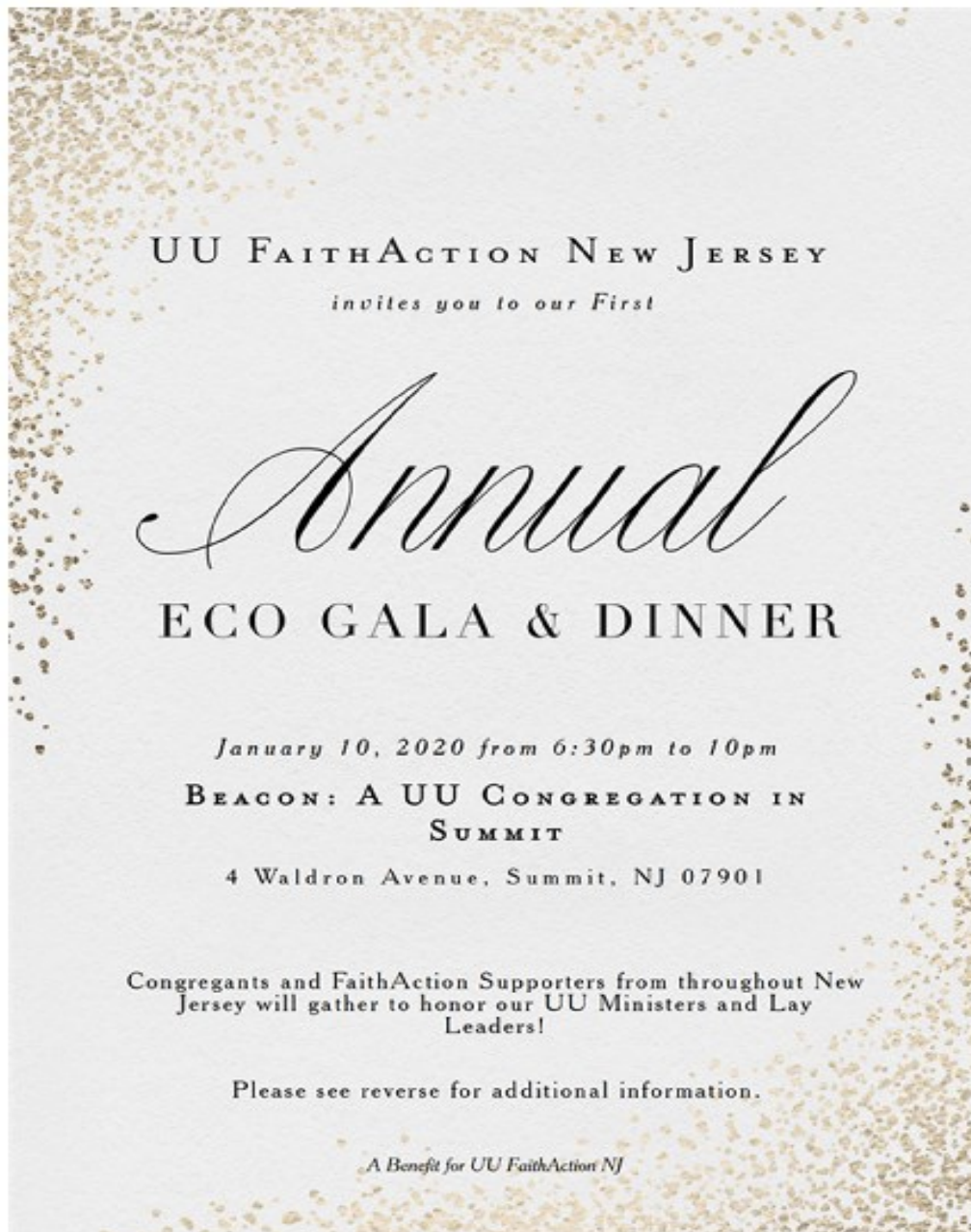
\$5 at the door for ages 12-17, must be accompanied by an adult



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

UU FaithAction NJ

Please RSVP by December 5th for the Annual Eco Gala & Dinner on January 10, 2020. Complete information is available at the Social Responsibilities table at coffee hour.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 Service - Jeanne Nametz 11:30 Environmental Justice Committee/Conference Room 11:30 Peace & Justice Committee/Upstairs Mtg. Room	2 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm. 7:00 BOT Meeting/Conf. Rm. 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm.	3 6:00 First Tuesday Meeting/Fellowship Room 7:30 Covenant Group/Youth Room	4 9:30 CYRE Meeting/Conference Room	5 7:15 Racial Justice Committee/Conference Room 7:45 Adult Choir Practice/Anderson	6 7:00 Holiday Decorations by Board & COSM/Anderson Hall	7 1:00 Youth Group/Kitchen
8 10:00 Service - Rev. Rev. Sarah Lenzi 11:15 Holiday Party/Fellowship Room 11:30 Environmental Justice Committee/Conf. Room	9 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm. 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Room	10 7:00 Covenant Group/Conference Room	11 7:00 Social Responsibilities Council/Conference Rm. 7:30 Covenant Grp/Youth Room	12 6:15 COSM Meeting/Conference Room 7:45 Adult Choir Practice/Fellowship	13	14
15 10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi 11:00 Circle Implementation Team/Anderson 11:30 Reproductive Justice Comm/Conference Room 7:30 Society Café Concert/Anderson	16 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm. 7:00 Sunday Services Committee/Conference Room 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm.	17 7:30 Covenant Group/Youth Room	18 7:30 Covenant Group/Conference Room	19 7:45 Adult Choir Practice/Fellowship Rm.	20	21
22 10:00 Service - Rev. Sarah Lenzi 11:30 Environmental Justice Comm./Conf. Room	23 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm. 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Room	24 5:30 Christmas Eve Service/Anderson Hall	25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	26 7:45 Adult Choir Practice/Fellowship Rm.	27	28
29 10:00 Service - Poetry by the Fire	30 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/Fellowship Rm. 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Room	31				

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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

Chris Dunnigan, Treasurer Robert Markowitz, Trustee

Bernie Josefsberg, Secretary

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 December 20th deadline
@ usr.secretary@gmail.com