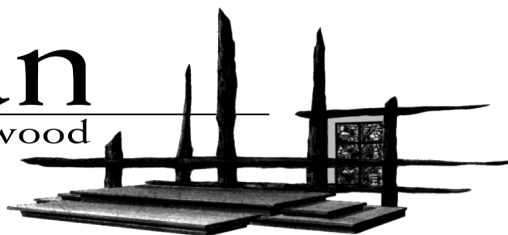


Unitarian

Society of Ridgewood



From the Interim Minister's Mailbox

April was quite a month at the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood! In addition to the ongoing ministries of worship, education, social justice, and governance, the membership completed two major votes. You elected a Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) and by a unanimous vote of those present, you passed a resolution in support of Black Lives Matter (BLM) that includes the action of placing a banner on the meetinghouse wall facing Cottage Place.

In the first vote you took a major step toward the Society's future. The importance of the MSC cannot be overestimated. This is the group charged with bringing the right candidate to the membership (you) in the Spring of 2017. The committee will soon start to work. The seven members will be very busy between now and the congregational meeting to call a new minister in April or May next year. They will soon be holding their organizing meeting and laying out their work plan.

In the second vote, you took your commitment to antiracism to the next level. You voted to become an anti-racist congregation in 2002. You have worked hard since then. Structural racism, however, is such an ingrained part of American culture that there is much more work to do. Black Lives Matter launched the struggle into the next phase after the Civil Rights era. The issue of extralegal police violence against Black men has long been with us. But over the past two to three years, this issue has been in everyone's face. BLM began as a response to several horrific killings and also addresses related issues of structural racism. It is led by young Black adults – many of them gay or lesbian – who are the new generation of civil rights leadership. Just as King's generation took bold steps that rattled an older generation of leaders, BLM leaders are rattling members of what I call the Civil Rights Movement generation.

One police officer expressed to me the concern that BLM was antipolice. It is not antipolice. It is anti-excessive use of force by police. Most police officers do not use excessive force. In some places, however, excessive force is a systemic problem. Another police officer joined with me in supporting BLM.

The work of the ministerial search has a 12-to-14 month time frame. The work of dismantling racism has a longer time frame.

In both cases, the work is for people who are in for the long haul. Which, I believe, describes the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood very well. You are people who are in for the long haul.

April was quite a month! And there will be more like it.

Rev Dr TJ

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

Cell: 646-515-4729

Email: usr.minister@gmail.com



Reflections

I am sitting down to write this the morning after a busy and exciting Sunday at the Society - we had our regular RE classes and Sunday school, we voted to hang a "Black Lives Matter" banner from our building (and then hung it!), twenty-one of you participated in an RE Visioning Workshop, and finally, the Sr. Youth Group met in the late afternoon and were visited by Dr. Maryann Woods-Murphy, co-director of Teens Talk About Racism (www.teenstalkracism.org/), who invited our teens to participate and possibly take on some leadership roles in the event. I am proud to be part of such a vibrant and engaged community.

One of the most important things lifted up in the RE Visioning Workshop was the need for more opportunities for USR children and families to get to know each other. One hour of structured curriculum on Sunday mornings is just not enough to form the kind of bonds that make children and families excited to get to church and see their friends. The Children & Youth Religious Education Committee and I will be working on offering some such opportunities, and we are happy to have your help! As the weather is getting nicer, there are many options for outdoor activities that children and families can do together. It can be as simple as a trip to the park. If you would like to host a family activity, please be in touch with me. I will be happy to work with you on logistics and to make sure that our safety policies are upheld.

The need to have more connection between the adult congregation and the religious education program was also recognized. Many of you are already connecting with our children and youth in some way - serving as RE Teachers, nursery volunteers, and Coming of Age mentors - and for that I thank you! In the coming weeks and months, I will be working with the CYRE Committee and RE Teachers to teach our children more about our congregation's commitment to racial justice, and how they can help.

Finally, I heard loud and clear that for some busy families, church needs to be a place they can come for rest and renewal instead of just one more thing on their "to-do" list. There is always important work to be done, and always a need for people to do it. It is also important to give ourselves and each other the time and space to just be. It is so hard for us to say "no", but sometimes that is best thing to do - for us, for our families, and even for the people we are saying it to. I may regret writing this on the eve of RE Teacher recruiting, but I believe church should be a place people come to, not stay away from, when they need to JUST BE. I will keep asking you all to join me in the important work of the congregation. Know that "yes" and "no" are equally acceptable answers.

In Faith,
Johanna

Hello from your youth coordinator,

Before I catch everyone up on the news of the youth group I wanted to tell everyone about an important event coming up soon. The youth group will be having a car wash fundraiser at CUC! On May 15th at CUC the youth will be gathered outside the church washing cars during the service. We encourage you to drop your cars off on your way into church and you can return after coffee hour to a clean and shiny vehicle.

Our senior high youth group is still going strong this spring! We'll continue to meet from 3:00-5:00pm at CUC in May and June. The group has spent time examining a number of social justice issues including the 2016 U.S. Presidential election, transgender rights in North Carolina and beyond, and the Black Lives Matter movement. The youth group wrote a statement in favor of the resolutions to hang Black Lives Matter banners on the buildings at CUC and USR and they were excited to see the resolutions pass.

Our youth continue to be involved in district events including attending two Metro New York district youth conferences and helping to staff a junior high weekend conference. Three of our youth also attended UU United Nations Office (UU-UNO) Spring Seminar. Our youth are also very excited to attend the Teens Talk about Racism forum, sponsored by CUC, on May 20th at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

The bridging ceremony for graduating seniors will be May 22nd at CUC and June 5 at USR so please come and support them there. I'm going to miss our seniors very much, our teens are so great. During our meetings you can hear the talking and laughter from down the hallway or the other side of the building and I'm so grateful to be part of their community as an adult.

Thanks to all the youth and their families, and I hope everyone has a great Spring!

~ James

FROM THE BOARD

Dear Friends,

April has been an incredibly busy and deeply engaging month for your Board of Trustees!

At our April 4 meeting, we took the following actions:

- Set the **Ministerial Search Committee**, which has already kicked off the search for our next settled minister;
- Voted to fund the **Endowment Fund** requests for the CAMP reading program, New Jersey Sanctuary, the production of the musical, *Normativity*, and SHARE;
- Adopted the **delegate selection process** for the upcoming UUA Metro District meeting and General Assembly;
- Voted to adopt the **Safe Congregation Response Team's** recommendations with regard to Religious Education and Child Care safety policies and guide lines, and finalized our Sexually Safer Practices guidelines. We also voted to endorse the UUA's Black Lives Matter safety protocols.



The Board also voted to unanimously support the petition to endorse the **Black Lives Matter initiative**, and the hanging of the Black Lives Matter/Join the Discussion banner outside our main building. As you may know, this petition culminated in a unanimous “yes” vote to support this initiative at our congregational meeting on April 24.

Looking forward, we will continue towards formulating our 2016-2017 annual budget. We also expect to be wrapping up our work on our goals and objectives. I look forward to updating you about these developments in my next newsletter and celebrating our many successes this year at our Annual Meeting on June 5.

Warmest regards,

Suzanne Samuels
President of the Board of Trustees

FROM THE BOARD



The congregation voted at a special meeting April 24 in favor of the following proposal.

The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood (USR) is committed to study and actions that will help to undo and redress the systemic racism that exists in America - in our schools, in our justice system, in our culture. This commitment is based on our Unitarian Universalist Principles, is in support of the Black Lives Matter Action of Immediate Witness adopted at the 2015 UUA General Assembly, is in concert with the anti-racism commitment of the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of New Jersey, and advances the anti-racism commitment this congregation made in 2002.

The USR Interim Minister, the Board of Trustees (BOT), Social Responsibilities Council (SRC), Racial Justice Committee and over 25 members who have signed the BLM petition for a vote on the banner all endorse hanging a Black Lives Matter banner on the USR building. We, therefore, resolve that as members of the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood and as a congregation we are called to formally bear witness and stand as allies with black Americans in their struggles for justice, equality and security, and in support we will hang a Black Lives Matter banner on our building. We understand that the responsibility for its maintenance and its duration will lie with the Racial Justice Committee and the Program Council. The first review will be in April 2017.

The banner was hung immediately after the vote. The Racial Justice Committee is aware that our work has just begun. Programs are being planned now for the 2016-17 year. We welcome everyone interested in joining this work. Contact Carol Loscalzo or Carolyn Musser.

New York Metro District Annual Meeting **BETTER TOGETHER**

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.

A promotional graphic for the UU District of Metro New York Annual Meeting. It features a blue background with white and yellow text. On the left, there is a vertical banner with the text 'OUTSTANDING WORKSHOPS', 'INSPIRING FUN', 'FOOD WORSHIP', and 'MUSIC'. The main text reads 'UU District of Metro New York Annual Meeting Central East Region' followed by 'Hyatt Headquarters Hotel, Morristown, NJ' and 'May 6-7, 2016'. Below this, it lists the 'Keynote Speaker: Taquiena Boston' and the 'Friday Night Concert: Brother Sun'. There are small photos of Taquiena Boston and Brother Sun. At the bottom, it provides details for registration and advance reservations.

**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

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Planned Giving

The Planned Giving Committee is pleased to announce the grants for 2016. The fund had a total of \$6,000 to award. Upon approval of the Board, the following were awarded:

\$500 to CAMP to purchase books for a reading program for younger students. Applicant: Sally Lewis.

\$2,500 to SHARE to be used to help replace worn carpeting in the residence. Applicant: Georgetta Walsh.

\$1,000 to assist in the production of a new musical, Normativity, focusing on LGBT issues. The play is set to perform at the NY Musical Festival and was written by Jaime Jarrett, an alumni of the USR youth program. Applicant: Eileen Jarrett.

\$2,000 to the Northern NJ Sanctuary Coalition which provides support for political asylum seekers in our area. Applicant: Elizabeth Ames.

All of these projects reflect, in some way, the ideals and goals of the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood and our community service outreach. Each year earnings from the Endowment Fund are used to provide grants that reflect the goals and ideals of the USR and are applied for by members. For anyone interested in learning more about how to contribute to the Endowment Fund or our grant process, please contact Jeff Cagan, chair.



The Planned Giving Committee is pleased to report that the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood received a bequest from the estate of Dolores Bebe in the amount of \$78,194.55. The generous gift greatly increases the size of the Endowment Fund and allows us to increase the size of the grants that will be available for next year. The Endowment Fund is not used to provide the operating budget for the Society. Its interest and proceeds are used each year to fund grants that are requested by our members to provide outreach into the community that reflects the values of the USR.

While annual gifts to the Endowment Fund are greatly appreciated and sought, Mrs. Bebe's gift is a prime example of how a bequest in a will can have significant impact. If anyone is interested in learning about including the Unitarian Society in your estate plan, please contact Jeff Cagan, chair, for a confidential discussion.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

A Message from the USR Ministerial Search Committee

We'd like to thank the congregation and the Board of Trustees for your confidence in us and for your support moving forward. We are all deeply committed to the future success of this Society, and we will work diligently and thoughtfully to find the best minister to fit our congregation's needs. We've already begun meeting, and will be providing updates on our process here in the newsletter and via the congregation-wide e-blasts.

Sincerely,

The USR Ministerial Search Committee

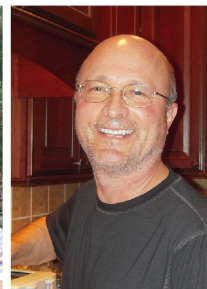
Mike Azzara, Mary Byron, Don Campolo, Steve Gregoire, Sally Lewis, Elyse Pleasic, and Carol Wolf



Mike Azzara



Mary Byron



Don Campolo



Steve Gregoire



Sally Lewis



Elyse Pleasic



Carol Wolf

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL

New Lecture Series

On Monday, **May 2nd**, The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood lecture series will start a new course titled "The Meaning of Life: Perspectives from the Great Intellectual Traditions", a 36-week survey of ideas from the Bhagavad-Gita through Aristotle, Confucius, Dao, Zen, Nietzsche, Gandhi, the Dalai Lama and more. The class is free and open to all. We meet in the Fellowship Room of The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood starting at 12:30 p.m. every Monday for a 30-minute DVD lecture and an approximate 45-minute discussion. No sign up or commitment is necessary...just come when you can.

Newcomer's Brunch

Please join us on Sunday, **May 15th**, 11:30 a.m. in the Reeb Conference Room for a fun, social and informative opportunity to meet key personnel of The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood and members of the congregation. This is your opportunity to find out how to become involved and learn about membership. Brunch will be provided. Childcare available with advance notice. Call 201-444-6225 to sign up.

MINISTRY COUNCIL

CIRCLE OF LIFE

We send our condolences to the Cleveland/Downey/Kramer Family in the passing of their dear friend, William Connolly, known to many here as the former Yankee farm team player, who coached our Ridgewood UU baseball team.

We wish Marion Jones a speedy recovery from blood clots while she recuperates at Care One, "The Cupola" facility, in Paramus.



THIS MONTH AT THE COTTAGE PLACE GALLERY

Paintings by **Thomas Valenti**
May 1st through 29th, 2016

Artist Reception
Saturday, May 21st
2:00 - 5:00PM



MINISTRY COUNCIL

Upcoming Services

May 1st

May Day - A celebration of Life and Labor - The Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson

Following the Haymarket killings in Chicago in 1886, May 1st quickly became an internationally celebrated day of action and solidarity for working people. For many centuries before, May Day was a celebration of Spring and fertility. Historian Peter Linebaugh makes the connection in his new book *The Incomplete, True, Authentic, and Wonderful History of May Day* [PM Press 2016]. The service will begin with the recognition of RE Volunteers and include a Time for all Ages. Musician: Ron Levy, piano and selection(s) from Jaime Jarrett's "Normativity".

May 8th

Mama's Day and Beyond: Honoring Voices of Motherhood - Chanel Porchia-Albert, Executive Director, Ancient Song Doula Services

Continuing the Racial Justice focus, the Reproductive Justice Committee explores the meaning of Mama's Day, a national initiative of women of color organizations. Through music, readings and a guest speaker we will honor the resiliency of those who mother, especially those who bear the brunt of hurtful policies or who are weighed down by the stigma in our culture. Musicians: Ron Levy, piano; Lauren Hooker, vocalist, pianist and Interfaith Musical Minister.

May 15th

Coming of Age Service 1 - Johanna Seale

The first of two services which are the culmination of the year-long Coming of Age program that our 8th & 9th graders have participated in. We will hear credos and music from half of the Coming of Age group, and celebrate this important rite of passage as a congregation. Musicians: Ron Levy with Young Performers.

May 22nd

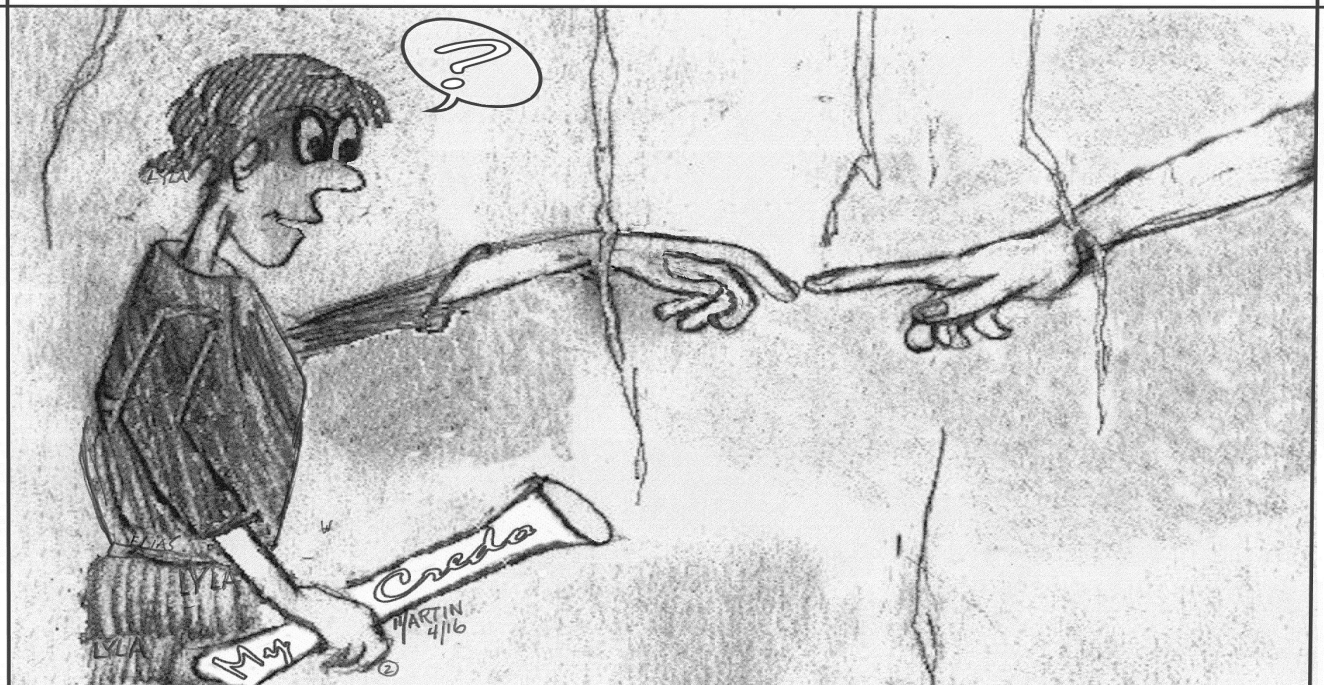
Coming of Age Service 2 - Johanna Seale

The second of two services which are the culmination of the year long Coming of Age program that our 8th & 9th graders have participated in. We will hear credos and music from the other half of the Coming of Age group, and celebrate this important rite of passage as a congregation. Musicians: Ron Levy, piano and Mitchell Milch, baritone

May 29th

Folded Flags – A Service for Memorial Day - The Rev. Dr. Anthony P. Johnson

On Memorial Day it is customary to place small flags on the graves of military veterans. At the funeral of a veteran, the family is presented with a folded U. S. flag. I invite any of you who received a flag at the funeral of a veteran to bring it this Sunday. Whether you bring a flag or not, you will have the opportunity during the service to name deceased veterans among your family and friends. I will share stories of some of the veterans at whose funerals I have officiated. Musicians: Ron Levy, piano and Don Batchelder, Principal Trumpet, NY City Opera



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

~Our Generous Community~

Thank you

The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood acts as a “beacon of justice” by contributing offertory collections 10-15 times a year to groups which carry-out UU principles. On April 17th, Junius Williams spoke to the congregation about the inequities in education between Newark students and those in Ramsey, New Jersey. He provided hope by describing the multiple ways in which The Abbott Leadership Institute in Newark trains and empowers Newark parents and students to advocate for their rights. A plate collection for the work of the Abbott Leadership Institute netted \$1,243.00. The Education Justice Committee at USR thanks you for your donations to the cause of education equity.

May 1st Plate Collection



Once a month the USR plate collection is donated to a particular cause or organization nominated by members of the congregation and voted on by the SR Council. This month the collection will be donated to the Community of Friends in Action, a group that assists workers in Eastern Bergen County and works for better immigration policy. This year's collection will assist in expanding the hours of the community organizer and strengthening the outreach efforts. Make checks payable to USR with COFIA on the memo line.

Thank you

The Green Sanctuary Task Team thanks all who signed letters at the Action Table on April 17th supporting NJ RETA, the New Jersey Renewable Energy Transition Act.

RETA just passed in the NJ State Senate and now heads for the State Assembly. The UULMNJ Environmental Task Force is asking all UU congregations to support the bill.



RETA provides for measures to increase energy efficiency across New Jersey, and requires that, by the year 2050, 80% of New Jersey's electric power needs be met through renewable energy (mostly solar and offshore wind).

The bill is currently in committee, specifically the Assembly's Telecommunications and Utilities Committee. Our letters are addressed to Wayne DeAngelo, the Chair of the committee, and Andrew Zwicker, a new member of the committee who is a champion of environmental causes, to urge them to move the bill to the Assembly floor.

As many of you know, UULMNJ, the UU Legislative Ministry of NJ, is a network of NJ congregations that coordinates grassroots advocacy and seeks to establish socially just public policy in accord with UU values. UULMNJ's current policy priorities include economic justice; environment; reproductive justice and healthcare; immigration reform; gun violence prevention; and criminal justice reform.

Climate Justice

The Social Responsibilities Council recently signed the Interfaith Climate Change Statement letter calling for world leaders to ratify and implement the Paris Agreement for global climate action. The statement was presented officially to the President of the UN General Assembly on April 18, 2016.

The statement was brought to the attention of the SRC by the UUA Green Sanctuary Program Manager, Rev. Karen Brammer as part of Climate Justice Month.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNCIL

Plate Collection Application

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, click [here](#) for the Plate Collection Guidelines. 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. Thank you.

Thank You

The Northern New Jersey Sanctuary Coalition is most grateful for the gift of \$2,000 recently awarded to it by the Planned Giving Council. This has poised us to comfortably be able to take on another client as soon as we have a willing host/hostess for a minimum of 6 months.

Reproductive Justice Committee Seeks Connections for Breakfast After the Bell Program in Schools

As a result of the **February 5th** panel discussion entitled, “Starting from Far Behind the Starting Line: How Poverty, Racism, and Lack of Access to Resources Impact Children and Their Families,” the Reproductive Justice Committee has teamed up with the Food for Thought Campaign (which includes ACNJ and NJ Anti-Hunger Coalition) to help implement the Breakfast After the Bell Program in NJ schools. Through the Breakfast After the Bell Program, students are able to access a healthy breakfast during the first few minutes of instructional time, as opposed to being required to arrive at school before class begins as with other programs. Many times, transportation or personal issues at home can serve as obstacles for children who are eligible for free and reduced meals at school. Providing every student with a quick and healthy breakfast within the first few minutes of instructional time both alleviates access to food as well as sets children up for successful learning throughout the day. Best of all, the program actually brings in state funding allotted for helping children.

On Thursday, **April 14th**, The RJ committee hosted Lisa Pitz of the NJ Anti-Hunger Coalition for an informational meeting to learn how volunteers can help get Breakfast After the Bell and its resources to children in NJ. Along with members of our congregation and advocates from the community, meeting attendees analyzed data to determine districts in need and brainstormed possible avenues to pursue as we pave the way to access free and healthy breakfasts for children in need.

Lisa Pitz and the Breakfast After the Bell team are looking to be connected with school employees and administrators, municipal employees, and concerned citizens of towns with a large population of children in need of assistance. Garfield and Fairview are the towns we focused on during the meeting, but you can access the NJ School Breakfast Report on <http://acnj.org/school-breakfast/> for a full scope of NJ schools and how they fare in terms of combatting child hunger.

It is easy to help! Do you have a connection with anyone in Garfield or Fairview? (...and we mean anyone!) Please contact Susanne Fuhrman or Carol Loscalzo if you think you can connect the Breakfast After the Bell representatives with someone from a town in need. All it takes is one meeting to help schools realize the potential they have to help hungry children – as well as understand the amount of state funding they are leaving on the table if they don’t implement the program.

Please reach out with any questions! If you are interested in getting more involved, join our “Breakfast After the Bell” volunteer group. We do not meet frequently, but when we do, we toss around some great ideas! Thank you for your help.

The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood
presents
**The Twelfth Annual
Two Piano Festival**
Sunday, May 22, 2016 at 3:00 PM



Six pairs of outstanding Northern New Jersey piano teams will perform some of the great works of two piano literature, including Chopin's Rondo in C, Ravel's La Valse, and transcriptions of Gershwin's Cuban Overture, Bizet's Carmen melodies and Da Falla's Spanish Dance No. 1.

The Festival raises money for the scholarship for a student pianist awarded by The Professional Music Teachers' Guild of NJ.

Suggested donation \$15.00, or more at door only.

For further information, call 201-444-6225.

**The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood
113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ 07450**

normativity



Photo: Alison Sheeny

An evening with local
playwright and songwriter

Jaime Jarrett and friends

Featuring song selections from the new



musical Normativity,
premiering at the New
York Musical Festival

\$20 Advanced Reservation*

\$25 at the door

\$15 Age 18 and under

Free childcare for
ages 12 and under

Sunday, June 5th

6:00 – 7:30 pm

Doors open at 5:30 for light refreshments
See additional information on back

* For advance reservations, call 201-383-0792 or email eileenjarrett8@gmail.com

Unitarian Society of Ridgewood

113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 Service 11:45 Connections/Youth Rm	2 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm 7:00 Board Mtg/ Conf. Rm 7:00 Reproductive Justice Mtg/ Upstairs Mtg. Rm	3 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Upstairs Mtg Rm 7:30 Connections Group/Youth Rm	4 7:00 Ministerial Search Mtg/ Upstairs Mtg Rm 7:30 Writers Grp/ Conf. Rm 7:30 Connections Grp/Youth Rm	5	6 6:00 Zen Meditation Week-end/RE	7 8:00 Zen Meditation Weekend/RE 5:00 COA Party/ Anderson
8 10:00 Service 11:00 Town Hall Mtg 11:45 Connections Mtg./ Youth Rm	9 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm	10 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Conf. Rm 7:00 CYRE Mtg/ Youth Rm	11 7:30 One Book USR/Upstairs Mtg Rm 7:30 Writer's Grp/ Conf. Rm	12 1:00 LIFFT Mtg/ Fellowship Rm	13	14
15 10:00 Service 11:00 Budget Mtg/ Anderson 11:30 Newcomer's Brunch/Conf. Rm 11:30 Connections/Youth Rm 11:45 Connections/ Upstairs Mtg Rm	16 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm	17 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Conf. Rm 7:00 Sunday Service Mtg/ Conf. Rm 7:30 Connections Group/Youth Rm	18 7:30 Writer's Grp/ Conf. Rm 7:30 Connections Group/Youth Rm	19	20	21 2:00 Art Reception/ Anderson
22 10:00 Service 11:45 Connections/Youth Rm 3:00 Two Piano Festival/ Anderson	23 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm	24 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Conf. Rm	25 7:30 SRC Mtg/ Conf. Rm 7:30 Writer's Grp/ Upstairs Mtg Rm	26 1:00 LIFFT Mtg/ Fellowship Rm	27	28
29 10:00 Service 11:30 Connections/Youth Rm 11:45 Connections/ Upstairs Mtg Rm	30 12:30 Monday Lecture Series/ Fellowship Rm 7:45 Zen Meditation/Fellowship Rm	31 10:30 Staff Mtg/ Conf. Rm				

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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



113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ 07450



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