The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

May 2014 Volume 55, Number 5

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June/July Combined 2014 Issue Deadline Sunday May 11, 2014 Submit articles to:

> submission@uucfl.org Editor

Gary Ladka

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> A Center for Liberal Religious Thought and Social Action in Fort Lauderdale



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Established in 1958



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President's Message



As my term as president comes to a close and I hand the office over to the very capable Gary Ladka, I would like to thank the board of trustees, Rev. Gail and the entire congregation for a good year.

There are a number of really important overriding themes that found their way into my thinking during the past year. The first is the importance of building and maintaining a warm, welcoming and caring church community. This emphasis was the centerpiece of the Southeast cluster meeting in Palm Beach last fall. The theme was "dream builders". A number of us from UUCFL attended that cluster meeting and found that the discussion fit in well with the discussions that we were having here in our church at the same time as part of our strengthening the tribe stewardship campaign. The importance of

community building was echoed at our summertime luncheon in which we shared our visions and dreams for the future of our church. The task and the rewards of community building are the responsibility us all.

A second theme was given voice by guest speaker Bishop SF Makalani-MaHee and his sermon on the occasion of Valentine's Day. In his talk, he emphasized that love is an action verb. With this in mind we are reminded that everything we do in our church community can contribute to love and mutual support, friendship and inclusion. It all depends on how hard we try to give voice and life to our convictions. Every Sunday we say in unison "love is the spirit of this church and services its law" this is indeed a great and beautiful covenant.

Another theme from one of my president's corner ramblings was the importance of keeping our chalice burning in even unlikely places. As was so beautifully described by Kimberly Paquette in the January Unitarian Universalist World, sometimes that chalice is desperately needed and deeply appreciated in places we night may not expect to have our voices heard. As a soldier in basic training Miss Paquette describes how a local Unitarian Universalist church helped her survive in a very oppressive and sexist environment.

A final theme and perhaps the most pressing, that jumps out at me is the notion of liminality. That is, we are a community in transition. Rev. Gail being on sabbatical puts us in an in between place. Our beautiful but somewhat aging building and grounds are in a place of transition and need a good deal of loving care. And then there are our troublesome recurring financial challenges. These challenges suggest to us that continuing without change is not sustainable.

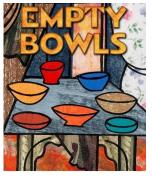
In order to address what our future might look like your board is beginning the process of planning for and implementing a long-range planning process to involve the entire congregation. We intend to engage professional leadership so that this process yields truly meaningful suggestions, directions and even imperatives that can be actualized in manageable and reasonable innovations and other changes in the way we do things. This is an exciting prospect and you'll be hearing a lot more about it as the process begins this fall. So hold onto your hat. This could be an exciting but also perhaps a less than smooth ride into the future of our precious religious community.

Victor Garlock

Filling Empty Bowls Dinner - Thursday May 15, 5:30 - 8:30pm

Yum, it is time to break out your soup spoon and join your church community in raising money for Lifenet 4 Families/Cooperative Feeding Program. If you have never participated, it is time to start. You pay \$10(families pay \$20), and you get all you care to eat soup and bread. It is a simple meal, served in a simple fashion. All soups are made by folks here at UUCFL and they range from vegetarian split pea to complicated meat and veggie combos; all costs are covered by volunteers, so all proceeds go to CFP.

If you would like to make a soup, serve soup, set up or clean up, or if you have any questions contact me tiredmomofbob@aol.com (954) 424-1910



Susan Friend

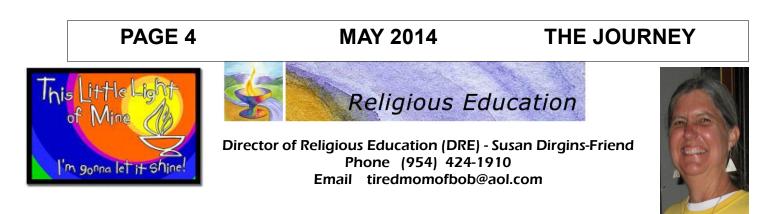
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Rev. Gail Tapscott has been quoted in an excellent article on the problems surrounding dealing with the homeless population in a National Media Website, Think Progress. This was written as a result of the group picking up on a Sun Sentinel article covering the Ft. Lauderdale City Commission's hateful ordinances against our most vulnerable citizens. Rev. Gail has long been a proud advocate for constructive ways to deal with issues of hunger and homelessness. Come join in the fight. Let Rev. Gail know of your interest in protecting these people with no voice but ours.



I feel like our church is on the cusp of something new and great. We have some new families who have small children (with more on the way) and they are regular attendees. This is wonderful, as there is nothing that warms my heart more than scenes like we had on Easter Sunday; a whole room full of kids dyeing eggs and then running wild hunting treat filled eggs out in the back yard. We also have the birth of an actual youth/teen group being led by our own Alexis Blasenheim. This is especially cool since Alexis grew up as a UU, knows our faith and what it is like being a UU kid. In case some of you have not noticed (and that could only be if you have not been coming to church), we have regular delicious lunches being presented by our own Rick and Nelson. If you have not done so, please thank them profusely and encourage them to continue by making sure you put something in the donation bowl and help clean up after lunch. There is terrific live music every Sunday presented by Ms. Dot, the choir, various solo performers, and occasional guests from Labyrinth Café. Our 3rd Friday Vespers services continue to attract more and new folks every month; the multipurpose room is full to overflowing and the inspiration and fellowship is fabulous. Molly Lesnick is working on trying to finally get the coffee hour situation squared away. Please join the party by taking a turn covering coffee hour one Sunday a month, or every other month. As always, we need more money than we have, but in many other ways, we have lots of good stuff happening. A church is not a business; it is made up of the people in it. We each, as individuals, make it as good as it is. Our Board works hard, the coffee hour volunteers work hard, the volunteer choir works hard to learn and practice their music, the sound folks work hard, Rick and Nelson work hard, the building and grounds volunteers work hard. These are the things that make the church go. Now, it is time for all the people who have been standing on the sideline to step up and join us. If you feel like you can't seem to meet anyone at church, or that you don't seem to be socializing on Sunday, get in the kitchen, no one ever stops talking! Join the choir, we have a ball! The time of change is upon us, and now is the time to be part of it. Our church is a beacon of liberal thought in Broward County. Let us make it grow and blossom.

Love and Blessings DRE Susan



May Children's Religious Education Schedule

Sunday May 4, 11AM

Regular RE

Sunday May 11, 11AM

Mother's Day Lesson

Sunday May 18, 11AM

Regular RE

Sunday May 25, 11AM

Memorial Day Lesson

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3rd Friday Vespers POT LUCK!! May 16 at 7pm

Don't miss the final Vespers before we take our summer break-POT LUCK! Rather than one of our popular themed evenings, we will have a mixed



program of meditation and favorite readings, poems, and music from our congregants. We will also have a simple pot luck supper, rather than just snacks afterwards-but don't worry, we will still be drinking wine! Do you have a favorite piece of literature or music that you would like to contribute?

Contact DRE Susan

See www.uucfl.org/vespers/

Please Info or questions, DRE Susan Dirgins-Friend (954) 424-1910 tiredmomofbob@aol.com

Name Tags – If you have not yet received a name tag lanyard, please sign up in church on Sundays. You have a choice of designs between a picture of the church and a chalice.



Please wear your name tags each Sunday so our veterans and our newer members and visitors recognize each other better.



cUUrious cUUrier – If you are not receiving our weekly email newsletter, the cUUrious cUUrier, visit our website at www.uucfl.org and click on "Weekly Email Broadcast" to sign up

Welcoming/Membership Committee



Music Notes

The April music is now behind us. Hopefully you heard the women's choir on April 6 when "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" was warmly received. Who knew our choir had so many lovely treble voices that could carry all of the service music successfully.



The Easter Sunday program challenged the choir with the Cohen "Hallelujah" and a "Calypso Alleluia" for the Choral Call to Community. Talk about joyful noise! Then it was the congregation's turn with a new hymn "Praise in Springtime" led by the choir. If you sang along, give yourselves an A+.

The last Sunday of April we heard Vernon Allen, our resident bass, sing "Somewhere" from West Side Story by Irving Berlin. It is such a pleasure to hear Vernon's rich melodic voice presenting familiar songs for our enjoyment.

May will offer choir on Mothers' Day singing "Calling My Children Home" and on May 25, Memorial Day weekend "Sing Me to Heaven". Both anthems are new and will require full rehearsals, choir please note!

The end of May is usually the last Sunday in our Church Choir Calendar. Please let the members know if you have enjoyed hearing them enhance the services all season from September through May. We are an all volunteer group, so your appreciation is the only pay our choir receives for coming regularly to rehearsals every Wednesday and every Sunday when scheduled. And while we are saying "Thank You" don't forget Charlie who receives only satisfaction for playing organ most Sundays.

Someone else who deserves our thanks is Alfredo Tamburrino who will play flute solos on May 18. He gives us variety to enhance our music program whenever he is asked to bring some beautiful classical or semi-classical flute melodies for the Sunday service.

We hope you have enjoyed the varied presentations of our choir and will look forward to hearing them again next fall. We also plan to join with other UU church choirs for Tri-Choir special programs next season.

Dot Muise, Director of Music

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LifeNet 4 Families/Cooperative Feeding Update - Postal Food Drive is May 10

Thanks to everyone for keeping the baskets in our lobby filled with donated non-perishable food. Keep up the good work. Remember, canned protein (tuna, chicken, ham, beans), dry beans, peanut butter and canned fruit and vegetables are the most desired items.

WE WILL NOT BE DOING OUR REGULAR 1ST SATURDAY WORKDAY IN MAY, so stay in bed on May 3rd. We WILL be participating in the Annual Postal Food Drive on Saturday May 10 at the little Oakland Park post office , 3350 NE 12th Ave, Oakland Park, which is near Dixie Highway and Oakland Park Blvd. Please come out to sort and box all the donations that will be coming in. No experience necessary, just a willingness to help and a desire to have fun with your fellow congregants. Last year we had 17 members of UUCFL out to help in our community, and I hope we can top that this year. For info or to sign up for May 10 contact me

Info: DRE Susan (954) 424-1910 tiredmomofbob@aol.com *Susan Friend*

Wake Up and Smell the Coffee

People are always saying we have the best coffee hour. However did you know there is no coffee fairy? Coffee is us. The church only buys coffee, tea, filters, sugar and sweetener. Following Ken Beier's excellent directions posted on the cupboard, it is easy to brew up a few pots of coffee. A bigger challenge is getting everything else ready: cutting up cakes, putting brownies on plates, washing the fruit and putting it on saucers, finding the cream, sugar and napkins, cleaning the tables on the porch. None of this is rocket science, just time consuming.



As of now we have four people who take one Sunday each month. But it would be easier, better and more fun if we had at least four more volunteers so we could all share the load and maybe even be ready in time to hear the sermon.

Also, though we love Jack's homemade brownies, not all of us are bakers, and some of us are not able to buy goodies. Every Sunday in the Order of Service bulletin is printed who should bring refreshments for the next Sunday based on the first letter of your last name. It would be great if each person in the congregation would take this to heart. We've had great contributions like Mary Jane's yummy heart cakes, Tom's wonderful homemade bread, and Publix coffee cake that Jerry picked up. Besides these types of goodies we've also had frequent requests for fruit.

If we all pitch in, we can share in the wonder of coffee hour. If you'd like to volunteer to help on a regular basis, please contact Susan Friend (tiredmomofbob@aol.com) or Molly Lesnick (MollyAndAlan@Comcast.net). Thanks!



Coming CUUPS Events

During May, we have no shabats or festivals because we celebrate Beltaine at the end of April. Thursday evening Study Groups will continue. May 1st we do "Diana's Bow, a Ceremony of New Beginnings." Diana, the Greek Goddess of the Hunt, is who we think of when we see the first sliver of a New Moon. Of course, it is an auspicious time to start things.

What astronomers call New Moon, we call Dark Moon. This is the moment opposite the Full Moon when our Moon is not visible at all. Dark Moon is the time for chaotic magick and is not for the faint of heart. It is the faint of heart that call this time New Moon. We know better, and we will plan programs for the other four Thursday's in May.

Kip, Resident Pagan

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Labyrinth Cafe Concerts Presents Nick Annis and Ralston Bowles Saturday, May 10 at 7:30pm

Drilling for oil in the Midwest. Selling ice cream from a truck. Running a bakery. Starting points for just a few stories Nick Annis deftly weaves between and through song and performance banter. One man medicine show? Itinerant philosopher?

Nick Annis is an award-winning songwriter, but he is also admired by folk fans for the storytelling talent that makes his performances so memorable. Audiences return to hear him deliver spoken word pieces in the style of brilliant songwriter/storytellers like Gamble Rogers, John McCutcheon and Dave Carter. Drawing on his diverse background and Greek roots, Nick crafts "true" stories and timeless accounts of humanity. www.nickannis.com





Ralston Bowles, a musician and songwriter who often is called the Ambassador of West Michigan's acoustic music scene, has been making music since he was a child growing up in Gary, Indiana. "The stories are out there," he says. "It's about finding the stories and telling them. That's what Woody Guthrie did. That's what Bob Dylan does."

Ralston's first professional job was at the age of 16 when he was asked to make up one of his story songs for a neighborhood party. After graduation he found himself playing in clubs and coffeehouses throughout the Midwest, making up songs about the people and places he visited.

His songs have been performed and recorded by Caroline Aiken, Peter Mulvey, Amy Speace, Betty Soo and Rachael Davis. He has received awards from American Songwriter Magazine, NSAI/CMT, Unisong and the International Song Competition, among many others. As a Kerrville New Folk finalist, he found himself opening for such artists as Shawn Colvin, T-Bone Burnett and Arlo Guthrie. He has become a bi-annual favorite at Boston's Club Passim. www.ralstonbowles.com

Reservations requested but not required: Contact Susan at OzWoman321@aol.com or 954-478-8637 \$20 at the door, plus non-perishable item for our local Cooperative Feeding Program (canned meats, beans, fruits, vegetables, peanut butter, dried milk, pasta, rice, cereal, baby food and baby formula); advance reservations: \$17, checks (made out to Artist) received in the UU church office no later than Wednesday before Saturday show.Please visit www.labyrinthcafe.com for further details and the artists' websites, and our Facebook page to give us a thumbs-up, which will then keep you informed of upcoming concerts - see you soon!

Susan Moss, Coordinator, Labyrinth Cafe Concert Series

Remembering Pete and Toshi Seeger: A Musical Tribute A Special Concert Sunday May 4 at 2:00pm



Pete Seeger will be remembered and revered for his inimitable capacity throughout his life successfully to elicit the Meek and the Mute of all ages, races, religions and politics, in and out of tune and key, to sound out lustily and sometimes courageously, in multi-part harmony, for Peace, Justice, Ecology, Equality and Internationalism. Behind, ahead of, and next to him for almost all his adult life was Toshi Aline Ohta Seeger- dancer, manager, filmmaker specializing in folk music, producer and environmental activist.

This concert Co-produced by folksinger and educator Rod MacDonald, Labyrinth Café coordinator Susan Moss and activists Bob and Patty Bender, the musical tribute of Seeger's songs will be performed by variety of South Florida folk artists, donating their time and talent: Allan Aunapu, Amy Carol Webb (www.amycarolwebb.com), Annie Wenz (www.anniewenz.com), Ellen Bukstel (www.ellenbukstel.com),

Grant Livingston (www.grantlivingston.com), Laurie Jennings (www.jenningsandkeller.com), Marie Nofsinger, Rob Koppelman, Rod MacDonald (www.rodmacdonald.net), Tracy Sands (www.tracysands.com), Vanessa Gilyard and others.

The event will also provide opportunities for audience members to get involved in local causes such as those that dominated the lives of Pete and Toshi. Non-profit activist groups that want to promote their cause at the event and other groups willing to assist by being a "Sponsor" should contact Ed Wujciak at ewujciak@gmail.com/954-673-8210. \$20 per person, Advance Reservations/Payment Required by Friday, May 2, 2014

(no printed tickets, reservations held at the door)

Net ticket proceeds will be donated to causes working for Seeger-aura social changes.

Contact Susan Moss at OzWoman321@aol.com or 954-478-8637 to reserve your seats

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Mark Your Calendar for An Evening of Happiness Saturday May 17 at 7:00pm

The Wisdom And Enlightenment Forum



Visit Happy Places with travel advisor Janet Ryder. She will take us to some of the happiest places in the world and even show us how to stay happy while planning a world tour!



Our own Mario De La Rosa will lead us to happiness through culinary delights. Did you know it is impossible to be angry while eating ice cream? Other surprises await.



Learn from Andrea L Evans, founder of spreadhappy.com on how your Happiness affects your health and well-being. 2013 Hot Blogging Top 10 Wellbeing Blogs!

Steve Lange will emcee Music by DJ Gary!

An Evening of Happiness

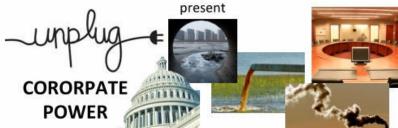
See Happy Places, Taste Happy Foods, Hear Happy Music, and Learn about Happiness and your Wellbeing

The Wisdom and Enlightenment Forum provides inspiring, lifeaffirming, creative, and practical ideas to help mid-wife the evolving consciousness of our community.

Donation \$10.00 + non-perishable item

See Rev Opal Murray for Tickets. 770-265-6242 This is a fundraising and friendraising event Please help sell tickets to others and spread the happiness!!

The Southeastern Unitarian Universalist Cluster And the Broward and Delray Move to Amend Affiliates



Saturday, May 24, 2014 9:45 am to 4 pm Registration and Continental Breakfast 9:00 am River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation 11850 W. State Road 84, Suite 1, Davie, FL 33325 954-723-7877 www.riverofgrassuu.org



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MICHAEL GREENMAN Moderator, Move to Amend Interfaith Caucus.

RICHARD HATTWICK Dr. Hattwick is a retired professor of economics

R

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\$15 advance, \$20 at the door Please mail check, payable to SE UU Cluster, & form from website below to Kathy Jens-Rochow, Treasurer, 1420 SW 13 St., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312. Deadline for mail in registration is postmark Monday, May 19

For Payment by PayPal: Deadline for PayPal registration is Midnight, Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Childcare through 12 years old for \$15 each child only by mail until May 19

Registration Scholarships available: please ask.

Registration includes Lunch and Continental Breakfast. Please indicate dietary preference.

www.uuflorida.org/secluster.htm

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The Market Place



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The program runs between January 1 and the IRS income tax filing deadline

(usually April 15) of the current year.

Mention the Church to any H&R Block Agent when you refer someone to make sure UUCFL receives the credit



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Remember the Hungry People Around Us

Please continue to fill the Food Baskets at the church with non-perishables for the LifeNet for Families Cooperative Feeding Program.



954-278-1143

Learn more about the CFP and other ways you can help. Visit www.feedbroward.org

Please Patronize and refer the above Friends and Members of the Church as they support the us with their advertising. Make sure you tell them you saw their ad in The Journey.

May Birthdays

CATHY WALTZ 5/5 MARY JANE STONE 5/7 JUDITH PINE 5/8 OLIVE C. BEVERLY 5/12 ALEXIS BLASENHEIM 5/12 SARA SOLIS 5/25 WALTER KARNATZ 5/28 LUNA EKENDIZ 5/29



If you would like to see your birthday announced here and in the UUrious cUUrier email newsletter, please contact the office to make sure we have your updated information in the computer



Referral

Program

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Unitarian Universa Church of Ft. Laude	list	May	Calenc	lar	ex	
Every Sunday : I 1:00 AM- Church Service and Children's Religious Education	breaking event	calendar for late- s www.uucfl.org ning Activities"	Religious Education Events See special calendar on the RE page 4	l •7:30 pm CUUPS	2	3
4 •9:30am - UU Sisterhood •12:45pm - After Church Class with Rev Gail (See Page 2) •2:00pm - Remembering Pete and Toshi Seeger Tribute Concert (See Page 7)	5	6	7 •6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal	8 •7:30 pm CUUPS	9	IO •Postal Food Drive (See Page 6) •7:30 pm Labyrinth Café Concert (See page 7)
•Mother's Day •Journey Article Submission Deadline •I 2:45pm - After Church Class with Rev Gail (See Page 2)	I 2 •7:00pm - Board Meeting	13	 4 •6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal	I5 •5:30pm - Filling Empty Bowls Fundraiser (See Page 2) •7:30 pm CUUPS	I 6 7:00pm - Third Friday Vespers Service (see page 5)	17 •7:00pm - UU Wisdom and Enlightenment Forum (see page 8)
18 •9:30am - UU Sisterhood •12:45pm - Path to Membership Class (See Page 2)	 9 •7:00pm - Sunday Services Committee	20	2 I •6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal	22 •7:30 pm CUUPS	23	24 •9:00am - Southeast UU Cluster - Unplug Corporate Power at River of Grass UU (see page 8)
25 •12:45am - Annual Elections Meeting (All Voting Members urged to attend)	26 •Memorial Day	27	28 •6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal	29 •7:30 pm CUUPS	30	31



3970 NW 21st Avenue Oakland Park, Florida 33309			
Minister:	Rev. Gail Tapscott		
Phone:	954-484-6734		
Minister Phone:	954-288-4245		
E-mail:	uucfl@aol.com		
Website:	www.uucfl.org		
Sundays at 11 am:	Service & Children's Religious Education		

The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

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May 4 - This Town - Based on both some reading and research and her personal experiences, Rev. Gail will venture into trying to analyze some of the disturbing realities of current electoral politics, what we can do differently and how not everything is as it seems. Special music and a short post sermon discussion on how we can be more effective in local, state and national politics during the upcoming election cycles. Then we hope everyone will want to stay for the extraordinary 2:00 p m Tribute Concert to Pete and Toshi Seeger who were Unitarian Universalists. You must prepay for this concert. See details elsewhere in the Journey.

May 11 - How UU Minister Thomas Star King Saved The Union and American Literature - Rev. Gail will share an extraordinary story that she learned about on her recent trip to San Francisco. It involves Mark Twain, a gay poet, a spinster writer and how Thomas Star King, the first minister to be ordained by both the Unitarians and the Universalists chanced to cross paths with them and have an amazing impact on American history and literature. This is a story that even many UU scholars do not know yet. We will also hear about Mother's Day and enjoy our amazing choir. After church Rev. Gail will offer some protein snacks and a chance to talk about the ways that being a UU has, is or will affect how you live your life.



May 18 - Books That Change Lives - Almost everyone that attends UUCFL knows that Rev. Gail has spent enough money on books in her life to own a house or at least a trailer but not all those books are equal. Today Rev. Gail and a few other UUCFL folks will talk about how books have the power to change the course of your life and destiny if you will. You will also learn about our UU owned publishing house and how that has changed millions of lives. After church we will have another lunch extravaganza produced by Rick and Nelson. Then folks new to UUUCFL can gather to become more oriented to Unitarian Universalism and our specific community. Rev. Gail and Membership folk will tell our story and listen to your story.

May 25 - Where Have All the Flowers Gone? - On this Memorial Day weekend, Rev. Gail will attempt to find some common themes on a day we think about lives lost to war and honor our wonderful diversity of all types by celebrating our annual Flower Communion. We will welcome new members, enjoy another community lunch and then celebrate our congregational polity by electing our leaders for the upcoming year at our annual meeting. This is also the 15th anniversary of Rev. Gail being hired to be your settled minister. A cake covered in purple flowers will give us an appropriate desert.

June 1 - Celebrating UU Religious Education -Today our Director of Religious Education, Susan Friend, and our learners of all ages will share some of their experiences in our church and how religious education can be life changing and fun.