We aspire to be a loving religious community where we can grow spiritually and build a more just and joyful world.

**SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023, 11:00 AM**
Rev. Jaye Brooks

**Tenting Tonight** On Memorial Day weekend, our thoughts are drawn to the lives lost in war. As we honor the service and sacrifice of those who have died to protect the freedoms we cherish today, may we also offer our hands and hearts to building a just and lasting peace. Several members will share song. **Sunday Cafe lunch will NOT be available due to the concurrent Retreat.**

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023, 11:00 AM**
Rev. Jaye Brooks

**New Beginnings** Cake will follow in celebration of Rev. Brooks’ time at Shelter Rock.

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**FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023, 7:30 PM**
Erol Delos Santos, Student Minister

**Soulful Sundown** An evening of spoken word with live music from the Cosmic Orchestra, onsite and online. Guest musician Mike DelGuidice featured at onsite-only Coffee House afterward. Where music resides at the heart of religious experience.

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023, 11:00 AM**
Rev. David Carl Olson

**Pride Service: Stonewall Means Liberation** We celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride each June, and hope to find in a number of distinct identities some basis for shared action. Can “Pride” cross the barriers of genders and sexualities, and even geographies like Nassau County and Queens? Let’s think about what it will take to liberate us all.

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023, 11:00 AM**
Erol Delos Santos and Men’s Group

**Father’s Day**

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023, 11:00 AM**
Rev. David Carl Olson

**Green Sanctuary Sunday: Creating a Sustainable Campus**

UUCSR’s Worship Services are onsite and livestreamed on uucsr.org/worship, Facebook, and YouTube; available thereafter on the same platforms and as podcasts at www.uucsr.org/podcast. Onsite, mask wearing is encouraged. Masks are required when singing.

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**TOUCHSTONES**
Rev. David Carl Olson

**I Brought My Spirit to the Sea**

I am delighted, these days, to take a walk around the Town Dock in Port Washington, to be just-a-little-jealous of people walking their dogs. I greet the people—known and unknown—with a smile and nod. For just a few moments, I stand among the cluster of people who stop to watch the sun set.

If I have a little more time, I catch a ferry. When I came to Shelter Rock last fall, it might be one of the ferries to Connecticut on the drive to Rhode Island to see my mother. On Mother’s Day this spring, it was the ferry to Cherry Grove and a seaside walk on Fire Island.

Rev. Max Kapp’s poem captures what I feel:

I brought my spirit to the sea. I stood upon the shore. I gazed upon infinity. I heard the waters roar. And then there came a sense of peace, some whisper calmed my soul, Some ancient ministry of stars had made my spirit whole.

Gazing upon infinity! The infinity of the stars, of course; but the infinity of the oceans, the grand waters over which humanity has travelled; the stories of their great lives, the tiny story of my own life. I can find myself lost in the immensity of space and time, in all these stories. And yet...some ancient ministry of stars speaks to me, calms my tiny frets and anxieties, allows me to be in awe and to find a sense of abiding peace.

Max Kapp was an encourager of young minds, teaching and mentoring a generation of Universalist ministers. He was also an encourager of the new Unitarian Universalist Association. In 1959, he preached the final sermon of the last biennial meeting between Universalists and Unitarians, and in 1961 at the installation of the first president of the merged denomination.

Kapp didn’t only look to the sea. At the old Universalist institutes at Ferry Beach, ME, he looked, too, to the forest where there was a rustic and beloved chapel in the woods. This is not unlike our own experience of the woods our congregation will visit during our All-Congregation Retreat. This is like the woods that we steward around our campus.

Continued on page 2
I brought my spirit to the trees that loomed against the sky. I touched each wandering careless breeze to know if God were nigh. And then I felt an inner flame that fiercely burned my tears. Uplift, I rose from bended knee to meet the asking years.

I find a balance here. Sea with Forest. Calm with Conviction. Infinite Eternity and the Present rolling out before us, asking of us. At the center of all of this, the human heart-mind, an emotive intelligence that encounters the world through all the senses, and always in community. That we might minister and be ministered unto. That we might greet each other with encouragement. That together we might meet the asking years.

Yours in a faith that frees,

Rev. David Carl Olson
Associate Minister for Congregational Life

We congratulate... Ginette Levin as she celebrates her daughter Juliette Levin who received her Master of Laws in Environmental Law from Pace University on Monday, May 15, 2023. Commencement Speaker Elizabeth Warren gave an inspiring speech consistent with UU values!

We ask for calls and cards for... longtime member Jetty (Henriette) Purohit who is at the Stern Family Center for Rehabilitation. Jetty had a short stay in the hospital after she fell and broke her nose and injured her spine. She is currently waiting to hear about potential surgery. If you would like to visit, please call in advance (516.684.6090) to see if she is receiving visitors. Cards may be sent to:

Henriette Purohit
Northwell Health Stern Family Center for Rehabilitation
390 Community Drive, Room 157 W
Manhasset, NY 11030

Senator Elizabeth Warren congratulated Juliette.

Fourth Friday May 26, 2023 | 6:30 PM | Social Hall and Meadow
Labyrinth Walking is form of walking meditation—you enter the labyrinth slowly, clearing your mind and focusing on an intention, question, or prayer—you pause at the center and then make the return journey. This can be a transformational journey.

Come construct a temporary labyrinth on the lawn. We’ll gather for a simple meal, and then share some thoughts about various labyrinths. Then we’ll work together (and play together!) to build our own. We’ll walk the labyrinth, perhaps as the sun sets and dusk turns to darkness. And each of us will bring to this sacred perambulation our own sense of what is meaningful to each of us. Creating the labyrinth for each other helps us think of what is meaningful for all of us, together.
Hope in Times of Uncertainty

When UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray spoke at the May 7, 2023 Service at Shelter Rock, she thanked our congregation for our many years of continued support of the denomination, both financially and spiritually. Watching her at that last congregational visit of her presidency, I remembered first meeting her in 2012 in Phoenix, AZ, at the Justice General Assembly (GA) when she was the young Lead Minister at the UU Congregation of Phoenix.

At that time, Phoenix was home to what was called a Tent City which housed thousands of immigrants being held on a variety of questionable charges by the sheriff of Maricopa County, Joe Arpaio. Throughout the week of that GA, Rev. Frederick-Gray and other UU organizers held candlelit marches throughout Phoenix and vigils at the Tent City to show both support for the immigrants and disgust at their treatment in the hands of a corrupt and cruel legal system. Years earlier, I had marched against the Vietnam War and in support of the ERA, but that week in Phoenix was the first time I actually came face-to-face with the people I was marching for: those who were suffering under our inadequate immigration policies.

This week, we are all watching thousands of immigrants arriving in our cities and suburbs without any real support systems in place. We don’t yet have tent cities set up but families are sleeping in police stations in some areas while temporary housing is being hastily built. As Unitarian Universalists, we talk a lot about human rights and dignity and we have always been out front in our support of immigration reform.

But this is no longer some far away problem happening in states like Arizona and Texas. It is here and the problem is ours. Lawsuits are being drawn up right now in our own neighborhoods to stop the housing of these people in our towns.

Eleven years ago, I think most of us at the Justice GA in Phoenix felt good about our protests of the conditions there. No one thought that we had solved the problem but I doubt we could have predicted what would be happening today right outside our doors.

As Unitarian Universalists, we find our faith in action and feel the greatest satisfaction in our work for justice. Susan Frederick-Gray ended her sermon at UUCSR with a plea to always lead with joy because it reminds us of what is possible. I am proud of our history for standing up for human rights and I hope we continue to fight for immigration reform as a UU congregation.

Learn About Programs and Events at Shelter Rock!
Visit the redesigned uucsr.org website. Questions, comments, and assistance navigating new options are available. Call 516.472.2980 or communications@uucsr.org.

You may now follow articles written by UUCSR members and friends that are shared on NEW BLOGS on uucsr.org and linked below.

- Clarity, from Rev. David Carl Olson
- Denominational Affairs (DAC) Updates
- Green Sanctuary Articles
- Social Justice Articles
- Touchstones from the UUCSR Ministry Team
- UU Veatch Program
- Women's Group

Event Highlights

Friday, May 26, 2023 | 6:30 PM | Social Hall and Meadow
Fourth Friday Supper and Labyrinth Spiritual Practice.
Please see page 2 of this Quest for details.

Sunday, May 28, 2023 | 4:00 PM
Ordination of former Shelter Rock Student Minister Alia Shinbrough by The Unitarian Society (TUS), in East Brunswick, NJ.
Attendance may be in person at 176 Tices Lane, or online HERE.

Saturday, June 3, 2023 | 4:30 PM Gathering, 5:30 PM Film: The Prom
Get your dancing shoes on and join LGBTQ+ for the musical that follows four semi-washed-up Broadway actors. Movie is 2 hrs, 10 min. Please register HERE for pizza, salad, beverages and fun.

Sunday, June 4, 2023 | 12 PM Brunch | 1 PM Annual Meeting
Please see page 2 of this Quest for details.

Friday, June 9, 2023 | 7:30 PM | Social Hall
Soulful Sundown, led by Student Minister Erol Delos Santos
Please see page 1 of this Quest for details.

Sunday, June 11, 2023 | 1:00 PM | Social Hall
Live Auction to Benefit UUCSR Partner Church, Rev. David Carl Olson, Auctioneer Unitarian Congregation at Csikszereda (Romania) is our Partner Church. What can you donate? Contact Barry Nobel (barry@nobel.org, 516.318.2740, mobile or 516.570.2154, home) for ideas, auction item pickup and more. Drop off donations to UUCSR office. Register at uucsr.org/23partnerauction ($5 online or at the door)

Sunday, June 18, 2023 | 1:00 PM | On the Grounds
Dance Visions NY with Farah Chandu and Willow in Rising Up
No charge. Program is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Re-grant Program, a re-grant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by The Huntington Arts Council, Inc. Registration requested HERE for planning purposes. Walk-ins are welcome.
Registration for 2023–24 Religious Education for Children and Youth and the 2023 All-Ages RE Summer Program is Now Open.

Your one-stop sign-up for this summer’s super-fun five Sunday All-Ages RE Summer Program and the 2023–24 Religious Education Classes for Children and Youth is now live HERE. Even if you have recently filled out a registration form, kindly complete this again so that we have the most up-to-date information on how we can best serve your family. Please feel free to contact Carson Jones at cjones@uucsr.org, with questions.

Feasts and Festivals Interfaith Potluck Lunch: Sharing the stories of our diverse faith through food following Worship Service on Sunday, June 11, 2023 Religious Education at UUCSR is dedicated to the exploration of world religions, and Shelter Rock is blessed with diverse heritage among our membership representing Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, Zoroastrianism, Islam, Buddhism, Sikhism, Wicca, and Neo-Paganism. We are planning a joyful potluck luncheon that will shine the light on all of us! Participants from all across the congregation are invited to bring in dishes and help serve at what we hope will be the first annual celebration of foods from the faith traditions we grew up with and practice today. If you have a delicious offering you would like to contribute, or if you would like to help serve at the grand finale of this year’s Feasts and Festivals quarterly events, please contact Carson Jones at cjones@uucsr.org or Jeannie Gross at jgross@uucsr.org.

Pride Without Prejudice Bedtime Stories! Wednesday, June 14, 2023 | 7:00 pm | Live on Zoom HERE

On the first Wednesday of the month, all are welcome to join UUCSR Lifespan Religious Education Coordinator Carson Jones for this special interactive storytime as he reads three family-friendly stories celebrating LGBTQIA+ Pride!

'Twas the Night Before Pride, written by Joanna McClintick and illustrated by Juana Medina
Teo’s Tutu, written by Maryann Jacob Macias and illustrated by Alea Marley
Ritu Weds Chandni, written and illustrated by Ameya Narvankar

Quest is published twice a month, except once each in July and August. Copies are available in the UUCSR Lobbies, uucsr.org/quest-newsletter, and via email. Quest Mission is to connect readers to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, to Unitarian Universalism, and to each other. Quest is produced by staff members Jennifer Sappell and Linda McCarthy, with the invaluable assistance of member volunteers Claire Z. Bock, and Jessica K. Vega. Submissions: communications@uucsr.org Quest Guidelines: http://j.mp/quest-gl. Quest may include views or opinions that do not necessarily reflect official policy, views of the respective boards or committees, or editorial staff.