Green Sanctuary Sunday: Creating a Sustainable Campus  Our connections to the earth and our commitment to sustainable living on our campus involves education, action, and fun. Our service includes reflections by members of the Green Sanctuary Committee, a meditation by Rev. David Carl Olson, and thoughts for the future including electric charging stations and sustainable lawn care. Special music by the Any Given Sunday Band. Sunday Cafe canceled after Worship; cookies and beverages available.

End of Year Barbecue will follow on the Patio (if weather permits) or in the Social Hall (in case of rain), sponsored by the Men’s Group. $7 covers a traditional menu and entertainment by the Any Given Sunday Band. Advance registration encouraged but not required at uucsr.org/23bbq. Please contact Lex (516.472.2920 or ajellema@uucsr.org) with questions.

Soulful Sundown offers Rev. Olson's spoken word with music from the Cosmic Orchestra, onsite and online. Special guest musical artist Kemp Harris featured at onsite-only Coffee House afterward.

Where music resides at the heart of religious experience.

FREE and open to all.

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

I made a mistake: I was speaking about someone and I used a pronoun which does not match their chosen identity. It was in a public space.

I was mortified. I hurt and offended a wonderful human being. I embarrassed myself in front of people who expect me to know better and do better.

When it happened, I almost froze—I was unsure what to do and found myself falling back on what I learned long ago in school—and just pushed through without acknowledgment.

But it worried me so much I could barely sit still. I went to the person I offended and apologized. With grace, they accepted my apology. They had no responsibility for educating me but chose to speak with me briefly about how I might have managed the situation in the moment. I listened to their advice and have since taken the time to do some study—and to reflect on what I might have done differently.

Some of my thoughts are these: I should slow down in some conversations and interactions to give my brain time to connect a person with the pronoun of their choice or the identity of their choosing. When I say something wrong, I could just stop and say "Excuse me, I should have said...” or “Sorry, I said the wrong thing” or “Forgive me...” or something like that—in the moment. It never hurts to keep quiet if in doubt—best to let others speak for themselves, especially those who are often not allowed to speak for themselves.

Of course, we all make mistakes. Some of them pretty terrible. If we are lucky we encounter grace and the opportunity to learn and grow—and to begin again.

It is not to say that we can continue to make the same mistakes over and over. It is not to say that everyone offended should forgive. It is not to say that every action is forgivable.
Some people are choosing to purposefully harm. But we can slow the rush to instant judgement and punishment—we can take some time to discern how to respond to the actions, the words of those around us. We can covenant together to build spaces which support our better selves. This can be a community where we support one another as we learn to make fewer and fewer mistakes which cause harm.

As adrienne maree brown writes in *We Will Not Cancel Us and Other Dreams of Transformative Justice*:

> I want us to see ourselves as a murmuration of creatures who are, as far as we know right now, unique in all the universe. Each cell, each individual body, itself a unique part of this unique complexity. I want us not to waste the time we have together. I want us to look at each other with the eyes of interdependence, such that when someone causes harm, we find the gentle parent inside of us who can use a voice of accountability, while also bringing curiosity—“Why did you cause harm? Do you know? Do you know other options? Apologize.” That we can set boundaries that don’t require the disappearance of other survivors. That we can act towards accountability with the touch of love. That when someone falls behind, we can use a parent’s voice of discipline, while also picking them up and carrying them for a while if needed. I want us to adopt from systems of oppression and punishment to systems of uplifting and transforming.

May this community, with its many mistakes and forgiving grace, hold you in care and comfort. May we be accountable to one another. May we bring joy and delight to each other’s lives.

Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore

---

**MILESTONES**

We mourn the death of... longtime Shelter Rock member Douglas Keith Hyer. Doug died peacefully on Saturday, June 17, 2023, at the age of 80, after completing his dream of visiting all 50 states by making a trip to Alaska last month.

A celebration of Doug’s life will be held at 1:00 PM on Sunday, July 9, 2023, in the UUCSR Worship Room. All are welcome. Donations in Doug’s memory may be made to The National Eagle Scout Association.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to:

_The Family of Doug Hyer c/o Suzanne Viverito_

57 Memorial Place

_Mhanaset, NY 11030_

---

**THANK YOU**

I would like to sincerely thank the members of UUCSR for the outpouring of kindness and caring that you showed for both me and my family as we mourned the death of my beloved husband David Miller. Thanks for the flowers, visits, and cards. It was wonderful to have all your support during this difficult time. A special thank you to Rev. Dr. Natalie Fenimore for speaking at the funeral home and accompanying us to the cemetery.

It is so nice to know that I have my UUCSR family to rely on.

Thanks for being there for me,

Katherine Miller

---

**FRIDAY NIGHTS AT SHELTER ROCK**

We congratulate... UUCSR Shelter Rock member Serra Canca on her marriage to Chase Brown. The marriage was officiated by Rev. Dr. Natalie Maxwell Fenimore on Sunday, June 4, 2023 at Majestic Gardens in Rocky Point, NY. Congratulations may be sent to the happy couple at:

_Chase Brown and Serra Canca-Brown_

8 Janet Drive

_Plainview, NY 11803_

---

**FOURTH FRIDAY at Shelter Rock**

_Vibrational Medicine helps to balance all aspects of the being... physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual. By fine-tuning your system with sound, we can restore balance and activate your body’s natural healing abilities. Please bring your yoga mat and bolster if you have them. Registration requested HERE as it helps us with planning for the meal. Thank you._
A Message from the President

Two years ago, I approached the position of President of the Congregation with full commitment, my best intentions, and a healthy sense of humor. Everyday since then has made me grateful to be here and hopeful that I have moved things forward, even if microscopically.

I have tried to be available and to stay open in my perspective. I feel lucky to have had the opportunity to talk to so many of you about so much. You all have taught me to listen more deeply than I ever have before.

The members at UUCSR constantly impress me with their strong faith in, and real love for, each other. I tried never to take that for granted because the kind of connection we all feel for each other is rare and should be cherished.

Like every family, we are complicated and full of drama. Each of us wants to find a comfortable but meaningful place within it. The greatest strength of Shelter Rock is its ability to let every member try and try again until they find that soft spot on which to land.

Our need to be in community is strong and has brought us through a dark and lonely time. We learned to reach out towards one another through a technology that we barely understood and couldn’t always control. We discovered worship under a tent and meetings in a mask. Again and again, we found ways to stay connected and have supported each other through what I can only hope was the worst of times.

Throughout the last two years, I have depended on many others to help me look much more capable than I am. Working alongside the ministers and COA was like taking a master class in business and theology. The staff always answered my endless questions and requests with patience and kindness. The members of the Board of Trustees have made my term as President interesting, energizing, and meaningful for me. Relationships that were begun and strengthened during my work with the board are some of the strongest that I now have at UUCSR.

Thank you all for allowing me to step into a position that can be daunting and overwhelming and for letting me try and try again without fear of falling. It has been my great pleasure.

Jana North

---

Ministerial Search Committee and the Board of Trustees

Exciting Announcement

The Ministerial Search Committee unanimously recommended and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Rev. Israel Buffardi as UUCSR’s new contract Associate Minister for Member and Community Engagement. Rev. Buffardi will begin his ministry with UUCSR on August 1, 2023.

Rev. Buffardi graduated Harvard Divinity School in 2019 and was ordained in 2020. He also holds degrees from Johnson & Wales University: BS in Nutrition, 2011, and AS in Culinary Arts, 2009. He has over 10 years of in-depth experience gathering people inside and outside the congregation. This work includes: anti-racism organizer, community dinner organizer, Harvard Divinity Garden leader, FoodCorps service member, healthcare reform advocate, and incarcerated youth mentor.

Plans are being made for Rev. Buffardi’s arrival and there will be opportunities for the congregation to meet with the new Associate Minister for Member and Community Engagement.

Chris Hilke
Chair, Ministerial Search Committee

Jana North
President, Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock

Rev. Dr. Natalie M. Fenimore
Lead Minister and Minister of Lifespan Religious Education

Jana North
President of the Congregation

A Message from the President

Two years ago, I approached the position of President of the Congregation with full commitment, my best intentions, and a healthy sense of humor. Everyday since then has made me grateful to be here and hopeful that I have moved things forward, even if microscopically.

I have tried to be available and to stay open in my perspective. I feel lucky to have had the opportunity to talk to so many of you about so much. You all have taught me to listen more deeply than I ever have before.

The members at UUCSR constantly impress me with their strong faith in, and real love for, each other. I tried never to take that for granted because the kind of connection we all feel for each other is rare and should be cherished.

Like every family, we are complicated and full of drama. Each of us wants to find a comfortable but meaningful place within it. The greatest strength of Shelter Rock is its ability to let every member try and try again until they find that soft spot on which to land.

Our need to be in community is strong and has brought us through a dark and lonely time. We learned to reach out towards one another through a technology that we barely understood and couldn’t always control. We discovered worship under a tent and meetings in a mask. Again and again, we found ways to stay connected and have supported each other through what I can only hope was the worst of times.

Throughout the last two years, I have depended on many others to help me look much more capable than I am. Working alongside the ministers and COA was like taking a master class in business and theology. The staff always answered my endless questions and requests with patience and kindness. The members of the Board of Trustees have made my term as President interesting, energizing, and meaningful for me. Relationships that were begun and strengthened during my work with the board are some of the strongest that I now have at UUCSR.

Thank you all for allowing me to step into a position that can be daunting and overwhelming and for letting me try and try again without fear of falling. It has been my great pleasure.

Jana North

---

Interested in attending General Assembly (GA) Online?

Wednesday, June 21–Sunday, June 25, 2023 | Pittsburgh, PA

Video of some events from General Assembly (GA) 2023 will be live-streamed, June 21-25—no registration required—on UUA.org. Live-streamed events will include the General Sessions, Service of the Living Tradition, Synergy Bridging Worship, and Sunday Morning Worship. Other events are available to those who register for a fee, and include the ability to use an app or special browser-based version.

Jana North
What other safety measures are in place?

Can non congregational programming occur at the congregation?

Are Sundays restricted to Worship and Religious Education?

Is indoor dining allowed?

Are there restrictions on the entrances to the building?

Is indoor dining allowed?

Do I need to be vaccinated to participate in indoor programming?

Do I need to sign in?

Do I need to wear a mask?

Will the Congregation continue to have masks available onsite for those who request them?

Will the Congregation continue to have rapid Covid test kits available?

Do I need to socially distance?

Are there occupancy limits or restrictions on use of space?

Are there restrictions on the entrances to the building?

Can non congregational programming occur at the congregation?

What other safety measures are in place?

The new Plan is in effect until such time as there is requirement from federal, state, or local government entities mandating different risk mitigation or there is a revision approved by the Board of Trustees.

Do I need to be vaccinated to participate in indoor programming?

No. Additionally, proof of vaccination is no longer a requirement for employment (effective June 14, 2023).

Do I need to sign in?

No, the Congregation does not conduct contract tracking. The Congregation, at its discretion, may communicate to members and staff if there is a known positive Covid case.

Do I need to wear a mask?

No. Masks are not required. In general, masking is encouraged, supported, and welcomed for those at health risk!

Will the Congregation continue to have masks available onsite for those who request them?

Yes, the Congregation will maintain a supply of masks at the Main and Lower Lobby’s welcome and reception desks.

Will the Congregation continue to have rapid Covid test kits available?

No. Rapid tests will no longer be provided, given their cost and quick expirations. Anyone with Covid symptoms is encouraged to use home tests or obtain a PCR test.

Do I need to socially distance?

Distancing is not required for any activity.

Are there occupancy limits or restrictions on use of space?

No. All rooms can be used to their maximum occupancy.

Are there restrictions on the entrances to the building?

No. All entrances may be accessed as normally appropriate and in line with safe building ingress/egress.

Is indoor dining allowed?

Yes. There are no Covid related restrictions on indoor dining.

Are Sundays restricted to Worship and Religious Education?

No. Any congregational activity may occur on Sunday as long as it is not held at the same time as the Worship Service or a Congregational meeting and is in line with other programming policies. Masks are no longer required for singing.

Can non congregational programming occur at the congregation?

Yes, outside groups are now eligible to utilize the Congregation's property.

What other safety measures are in place?

Members and staff who have Covid or suspect illness/exposure should remain at home and take care of themselves and their families. CDC guidelines for Covid positive cases or exposures should be followed.

The Quest

All Members are Invited as the Membership Committee Moves Forward

Although the current congregational year has been quite successful, the upcoming year promises some new surprises. Monica Schlichting will be taking over as the new Chair of the Membership Committee. She is smart, energetic, and has a good fundamental knowledge of the technology that will be necessary for meeting our new responsibilities. She will be working in collaboration with our newest minister, Rev. Israel Buffardi, and the other members of the Membership Committee. Rev. Buffardi will have a special interest in community outreach, as well as supporting programs designed to deepen our engagement in congregational life. I think the year ahead will prove to be an interesting one, and all members are invited as we journey ahead.

Over the past two years, it has been my pleasure to have served as Chair of Membership. This has been a tremendously rewarding experience for me. With the help of our outstanding Committee members, we have been able to greet newcomers and engage them in the Inquirers Series that consists of several interactive orientation sessions dedicated to introducing newcomers to Unitarian Universalism and in particular to the Shelter Rock congregation. The Inquirers Series has been specifically designed for newcomers and provides an opportunity to interact with ministers and other important staff members in a meaningful way.

We are delighted that so many of these newcomers have eventually decided to join the congregation as we continue to build the loving and inclusive spiritual community that we aspire to be. Each additional member brings with them a new flavor, a new energy, and a strong desire to become more engaged. They are truly some of the finest people I have had the pleasure of meeting. Their interests do vary. Some come to us in search of spirituality and a sense of community. Others have a strong interest in music and the arts, while others welcome the idea of serving people in need, and working to build a more just and joyful world.

You are invited and encouraged to join us as we welcome new members, as well as help our current members deepen their engagement in spiritual life. Just contact me or the new Membership Chair Monica Schlichting to get involved. Welcome!
That’s Entertainment—A Concert Not-To-Be-Missed
Oyster Bay Music Festival Performs at UUCSR
Friday, June 30, 2023 | 7:00 PM | Worship Room

Features a varied program filled with virtuoso instrumentalists, chamber music masterpieces, favorite arias, Broadway tunes, and even some of your favorite movie themes—all in one concert. There will also be the unusual and rarely heard, such as a violinist accompanied by a 2.5 octave musical glass set and a performance on the musical saw by Dale Stuckenbruck (one of the premier saw players in world) together with celebrated pianist Maxim Lando.

Visit uucsr.org/23obmf for details. Free and all welcome.

Call for Artist Submissions for Congregational Art Show

Once again, it is time to plan for participating in the annual Congregational Art Show to be held in August, 2023. We eagerly anticipate seeing the creative efforts of Congregational painters, poets, sculptors, potters, photographers, and fabric artists.

Last year, our first show after lock-down was well represented. We are hoping that this year’s show will bring in even more artists to share their creative efforts.

This is your chance to shine and share!

Full details and registration forms can be found HERE on the UUCSR website (uucsr.org) and in the Main Lobby. You can also contact Elaine Corrao at 516.472.2933 or ecorrao@uucsr.org for a Registration Form.

Submitted by Shirley Arlt for the Art Committee
See UUCSR Collected Blogs on UUCSR.org:

**All UUCSR Posts**
All blog entries in one place, and some ONLY in this collection. See Carla and Paul Drezer's Thank You to all who made the Memorial Day weekend All-Congregation Retreat a great success. Also includes link to a large Retreat photo album.

**Clarity, by Rev. David Carl Olson**
This month Rev. Olson's blog, Clarity, includes a reprint of his June submission to Newsday, “What does Shelter Rock offer Millennials?”

**Denominational Affairs (DAC) Updates**
DAC Chair Barry Nobel compiled a fascinating and exhaustive history of the Partner Church Program at Shelter Rock.

**Green Sanctuary Articles**
UUA says “Join the Climate Justice Brainstorm!” Read more about how YOU can “Create Climate Justice With Love.”

**Social Justice Articles**
Because June is PRIDE month, the blog shares what UUA is doing to celebrate worth and dignity with focus on gender and sexuality.

**Touchstones Ministry Team Blog**
A fond Farewell from Developmental Minister Rev. Jaye Brooks. This blog is a collection of all ministers missives in one place!

**Veatch Blog**
Stay tuned for updates.

**Women's Group**
Post includes link to UUWF Reproductive Justice Toolkit.

Stay Informed!
In addition to *Quest* articles and Events Highlights in *Quest*, both members AND non-members have several ways to stay informed.

Visit uucsr.org/calendar for additional event information including login or registration requirements, if necessary

OR

Visit MYUUCSR Sign Ups on uucsr.org

OR

Use the incredibly handy mobile app and/or web experience to access calendar, directory, resources, and more available from Church Center

Download on the Apple App

Download on Google Play Store

AND

Follow articles that are shared as blog content on uucsr.org.

Tips for navigating the new uucsr.org website:

- **There are four tabs at the top of uucsr.org. Most content of interest to members may be found under the fourth tab: RESOURCES.**
- On any page, click the logo to return to the home/about page.
- When in doubt, please use the SEARCH icon located at top right! (The search icon is a magnifying glass. Click and then enter any words to describe what you might want to find. Scroll down to see pages that include the language for which you have searched.
- The top-most entry under RESOURCES is the CALENDAR, that also includes a quick link to FEATURED PROGRAMS for convenient sign-ups.
- The second entry under RESOURCES is MY UUCSR. After logging in, members may use it for a quick link to the UUCSR database for the Online Directory of members, for individual and household info, plus giving information, committees and groups to which you belong and more. Non-members have limited access.
- Member-only documents are securely stored under MY UUCSR. Click GROUPS, then Members of Shelter Rock. Click Resources to find a list of recently uploaded reports, minutes, agendas, policies, etc.

Questions, comments, and assistance navigating new options are available. Contact Jen Sappell at 516.472.2980 or email communications@uucsr.org.
Event Highlights

Wednesday, June 21 through Sunday, June 25, 2023 | General Assembly (GA), Pittsburgh, PA | Onsite and Online
The 2023 Unitarian Universalist Association’s Annual Meeting
To view free events, or to register for all programming, visit www.uua/ga.

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | 12:00 PM | Patio | Summer Solstice Celebration
Join the Green Sanctuary Committee and the UU Ukulele Group on the patio outside the lobby to celebrate Solstice. All are welcome!

Friday, June 23, 2023 | 6:30 PM | Social Hall
Fourth Friday at Shelter Rock
Sound Healing and Relaxation
See page 2 of this Quest for details

Wednesday, June 28, 2023 | 7:00 PM
Pride without Prejudice Bedtime Stories
All are welcome to join Carson Jones for a special interactive storytime as he reads three family-friendly stories celebrating LGBTQIA+ Pride! Join HERE.

Friday, June 30, 2023 | 7:00 PM
Worship Room
That’s Entertainment:
A Concert Not-To-Be-Missed
See back page of this Quest for details.

Sunday, July 2, 2023 | 12:00 PM | Patio
End of Year Barbecue with burgers, hot dogs, and more while the Any Given Sunday Band performs. Indoor seating will also be available in the Social Hall. All are welcome to this multigenerational event! Details HERE.

Friday, July 14, 2023 | 7:30 PM | Social Hall
Soulful Sundown
See page 1 of this Quest for details

Sunday, July 16–Sunday, August 13, 2023 | The Sounds of Love – An RE Outdoor Summer Program for All Ages
Families meet at 11:00 am on Sundays, July 16, 23, 30, August 6 and 13 in the RE Wing and on the grounds at UUCSR. Details HERE.

Sunday, July 16, 2023 | 12:00–3:00 PM | Veatch Ballroom | Women’s Group Annual Meeting and Election Luncheon

Sunday, July 30, 2023 | 1:00 PM | Worship Room
Orchestra at Shelter Rock Annual Summer Concert
Rich Musical Heritage of Ukraine
Nathaniel LaNasa, Featured Piano Soloist
See page 5 of this Quest for details.

UUCSR is operating with a significant reduction in Facilities staff. While a search for replacements has been underway for some time, the likelihood of trained new hires in place soon is slim. Please keep Shelter Rock in mind if you hear of anyone looking for full-time or part-time facilities work. And please be especially appreciative of the truly exceptional work currently demonstrated by Adrian Rivera, Andrew Breen, Roberto Aguirre, Cornell Carolina, Valentin Guerrero, and Enrique Porras. They deserve patience and gratitude for long hours and little time off.

Please note that there will be differences in evening hours during July and August. The Wednesday evening hours in July are primarily to support Summer Concert Rehearsal for the Concert on July 30. Shelter Rock will be open on two Thursdays in July and all Thursdays in August so that there will be one full evening of operations throughout the summer months.

The following 2023 Summer Schedule balances programming commitments and facilities staff availability.

July 5–July 31, 2023
8:30 AM–3:00 PM Sundays
8:30 AM–5:00 PM Weekdays
EXCEPT: Extended hours on Wednesdays, July 12 and 26
Extended hours on Thursdays, July 13 and 27
Friday, July 14 for Soulful Sundown

August 1–Labor Day, 2023
8:30 AM–3:00 PM Sundays
8:30 AM–5:00 PM Weekdays
EXCEPT: Extended hours every Thursday
Extended hours Fridays, August 11 and 25

There are no Saturday hours during July and August unless a scheduling exception has been pre-approved.
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION AT SHELTER ROCK
48 Shelter Rock Rd, Manhasset, NY 11030 | 516.627.6560 | uucsr.org / uucsr@uucsr.org

Lead Minister and Minister of Lifespan Religious Education
Rev. Dr. Natalie M. Fenimore (nfenimore@uucsr.org)

Associate Minister for Congregational Life
Rev. David Carl Olson (dcolson@uucsr.org)

Developmental Minister
Rev. Jaye Brooks (jbrooks@uucsr.org)

Congregation Operations Administrator
Adam Barshak (abarshak@uucsr.org)

Executive Director, Veatch Program
Joan Minieri (joan@veatch.org)

Music Director
Stephen Michael Smith (ssmith@uucsr.org)

Lifespan Religious Education Coordinator
Carson Jones (cjones@uucsr.org)

Social Justice Coordinator
Claire Deroche (cderoche@uucsr.org)

Officers of the Congregation
President: Jana North
Vice President: Chris Hilke
Secretary: Toni Logue
Treasurer: Moin Haque

Members of the Board of Trustees
Claudia Barbey
Iliza Bartels
Bill Carmody
Bill Kahn
Aimee Vella Ripley
Ursula Salamone
Jane Weiler

Next Quest: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 | Deadline for Content: Thursday, July 6, 2023

Fire Safety

On Sunday June 18, 2023, the UUCSR fire alarm went off in the early afternoon. Congregants responded with swift and appropriate caution. Thank you!

It was a false alarm, determined to be triggered by a faulty sensor in the air duct in the Main Kitchen. The sensor is being examined by the vendor supporting the UUCSR fire alert system.

PLEASE REMEMBER: EVERYONE, regardless of their role or position, should exit the building when an alarm sounds, and should not re-enter the building until it can be determined by the facilities staff and or the Fire Department that it is safe to do so. Thank you for keeping UUCSR safety top-of-mind.

Magnificent Trails and Grounds are Open to the Public

One-half hour after the UUCSR buildings open, and one half hour before gates are locked, all are welcome to enjoy UUCSR's grounds, gardens, and trails at 48 Shelter Rock Rd. Please see the hours for July and August on page 7 of his Quest. Meditation, quiet reflection, nature walks, and other passive pastimes are all welcome.

To confirm times available for strolling the premises, please contact Elaine at 631.472.2933 or email ecorrao@uucsr.org.

Enjoy!