



## The Weekly Fellowship Flash

August 14, 2025

**This Week's Service – 10:30 AM Sunday**

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington

### The Torch of Freedom

Sunday, August 17 at 10:30 am

**Guest Minister:**  
Rev. Ben Bortin



**Music by**  
Dylan DeFeo

In Person and Online ([www.uufh.org](http://www.uufh.org))

Join us in person or [online](http://www.uufh.org).

While love is at the heart and soul of our values as Unitarian Universalists, a guiding and distinguishing force for our tradition over its four-and-a-half-century history has been freedom. That includes spiritual freedom. We also celebrate freedom in our great country, of course, despite the stain of slavery and Jim Crow. A look at how we continue to keep the torch of freedom burning bright.

## From Rev. Israel – A Warm Hello and Invitation

Dear friends,

I'm so glad to finally be here and beginning this shared journey with you at the UU Fellowship of Huntington. I'm eager to get to know you, hear your stories, and learn what makes this community so vibrant.

### Come Say Hello

Next week, I'll be in the office Tuesday–Thursday, late morning to afternoon. Feel free to stop by—I'd love to meet you. If those times don't work, just call or email so we can set something up. There's no rush; we have plenty of time to get to know each other, but I'm happy to start now if you are.

From August 22–29, I'll be taking some family time after our move to settle into our new home in Huntington Station (and maybe get our little garden going). I'll be back in the office at the start of September, ready to dive in.



### September 7 – Ingathering / Homecoming Sunday

Our first Sunday together will be a special one—Ingathering, our annual Homecoming Sunday. We'll share our water ceremony, celebrating how the many streams of our lives flow together in this place of connection and renewal. Bring water from home or from a place special to you, or use the water we'll have available.

### After the Service – Community Conversation

After worship, I'll host a "getting to know you" conversation—part town hall, part story circle. It's a chance to share hopes, listen deeply, and start weaving the fabric of our shared ministry. Lay leadership will also host a second evening conversation (date TBD) for those who can't join us in the morning.

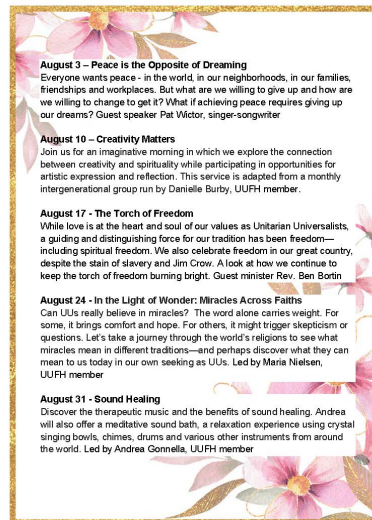
I'm excited to begin this year with you—rooted in who we are now, open to what's possible next.

In gratitude,  
Rev. Israel

---

## 2025 August Worship Schedule

[Download Here](#)



---

## This Week's Events

### Services Auction - Wetlands Discovery Cruise of Stony Brook Harbor Saturday, August 16 at 5:10 pm

The Discovery Cruise is only about half full, as of August 7, so there's still time to sign up to go! They will meet on Saturday, August 16, at Stony Brook Harbor at 5:10 pm for a 5:30 pm tour.

If interested, call or text Jan Brenner at 631-697-0245 as soon as possible. The trip is paid for, so any contribution you wish to make should be donated directly to UUFH.

The link to the website for details about the cruise is below:

[wmho.org/education-programs/discovery-wetlands-cruise-2/](http://wmho.org/education-programs/discovery-wetlands-cruise-2/)  
[Discovery Wetlands Cruise](#)

---

### UUFH Labyrinth Walk Monday, August 18 at 7 pm

Please join our August labyrinth walk on Monday, August 18



in the sanctuary. We will begin our walk at 7:00 pm, kindly arrive a few minutes early to settle in. Per our security policy, we will lock the doors at 7:00 pm.

Your RSVP to [Joanne Polichetti](#) is appreciated, but you are always welcome! Bring a friend! See you on the path!

---

## UUFH Native Welcome Garden Featured in Garden Crawl

**Wednesday, August 20 from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm**

The UUFH Native Welcome Gardeners are excited to let you know that they have accepted an invitation for the UUFH Welcome Garden to be included in this season's Huntington Garden Crawl sponsored by Suffolk Alliance for Pollinators and ReWild. You are all invited to participate and experience either all or some of the beautiful gardens. Please see the registration link from the QR code or [click here](#). A brochure with information on each garden will be given out at the starting point.

UUFH Native Welcome Garden will be featured in the Western Suffolk Native Garden Crawl.

The FREE tour starts at 9:30 AM at Harborfields Public Library.

Scan here to register:



---

## Upcoming Events

### UUFH Auction Gala Offering: Scotch Tasters Wanted

**Friday, September 12 at 6:30 pm**

Karen & Tom Mazzotta have a few openings left for the Scotch Tasting on Friday, September 12. Curious? Interested?

Send Karen a text/call/email at 631-793-2983, [karen.mazzotta@gmail.com](mailto:karen.mazzotta@gmail.com).

Join Tom (with Karen) for a lovely end-of-summer evening of scotch tasting and hors d'oeuvres. Taste single-malt scotches from Scotland's five whiskey-producing regions (including Highland, Lowland, Speyside, Campbeltown and highly peated Islay whiskeys)...plus a possible surprise. No worries, non-alcoholic refreshments will also be available, including coffee/tea and a sweet treat at the night's end.



### Knitting 2.0 Services Auction Offering

**Sundays, September 21, October 12, and November 2 at UUFH**

Knitting 2.0 services auction offering will begin this fall! We still have a few spots for some knitting wannabees! Our upcoming dates, all Sundays after service, are September 21, October 12, and November 2. We love knitting for many reasons: it can be relaxing; it's fun to create things for yourself

and others; it keeps your mind fresh and strong; and you find yourself part of a community of knitters! All supplies are included for the \$25 fee paid to UUFH. Please reach out to Terry Donaldson ([tdonalds2014@gmail.com](mailto:tdonalds2014@gmail.com)) or Shelley Lauer-Bader ([michele.lauer.bader@gmail.com](mailto:michele.lauer.bader@gmail.com)) and let us know you're interested!

---

## Announcements

**Volunteer Inspiration!**

Sandra Yens completed a course on Stop Recruiting, Start Retaining: Volunteers and she is so excited to share and implement the ideas found in this course throughout the year. Stay tuned for future volunteer testimonials, some fun volunteer get togethers, and other fun activities that give back to our amazing UUFH volunteers! Only with people at UUFH volunteering, do we have the programs and activities at UUFH that help to heal the world together! If you feel inspired to start volunteering, please contact Sandra at the [office@uufh.org](mailto:office@uufh.org) so she can point you to the contact person.

Please see this TedTalk video for an inspiring talk about volunteering and how anyway that you volunteer at UUFH makes a difference, [TedTalk Video Here](#).

---

### Sign Up Your Child and/or Youth for Sunday School at UUFH!

Sunday School will be starting September 14! Please sign up your child and/or youth to attend now! Click the [Google Form link here](#). Registering your child and/or youth will help us with planning the Sunday school classes and teachers needed for 2025-2026. Please contact Sandra at [office@uufh.org](mailto:office@uufh.org) or 631-427-9547 if you have any questions.

---

### UUFH 2024-2025 Annual Report

The UUFH 2024-2025 Annual Report is on the UUFH website, located at [this link](#). Updated as of this week! Please know the UUFH Annual Reports are for UUFH members only.

---

### Check the UUFH Website!

Be sure to check the [UUFH website](#) for the latest information, including the Board of Trustees' monthly minutes (for members only).

---

### UUFH Office Hours for Next Week - August 18 - 21

The UUFH Office will be open on only Thursday, August 21 for next week. Sandra Yens, the Office Director and Acting Sunday School Coordinator, will be taking vacation from Sunday, August 17 through Wednesday, August 20. Please call 631-427-9547 or email [office@uufh.org](mailto:office@uufh.org) if you have any questions.

---

## View Previous Services on YouTube

You can always find the last four services [on our website](#), or, please subscribe to [our YouTube channel](#)!

[View the August 10, 2025 Service:](#)



---

## July and August Split Plate



## Engage Long Island

Originally created as Long Islanders for Gun Safety in response to the tragedy in Parkland, we relaunched as Engage Long Island to better reflect our broader mission and goals. As a grassroots group, we mobilize volunteers to stand up for vulnerable communities and our shared progressive ideals. As Upstanders, we engage with voters, advocate on issues (such as gun violence prevention, reproductive freedom, protecting democracy, and LGBTQ+ rights), and serve our communities.

Some of our recent initiatives and events which have required funding include:

- Painted canvas tote bags filled with toiletries for Jericho Cares, North Shore Soup Kitchen, and new immigrant mothers
- Blanket making for Long Island Coalition for the Homeless
- Tie dyed towels for the underserved kids affected by gun violence that the Scott J. Beigel Memorial Fund sends to sleepaway camp
- Garden & Give program where we help home gardeners grow fresh vegetables and herbs for families experiencing food insecurity (ongoing)

Nominations Needed for UUFH Split Plate, [click here to download the form and recommend a charity](#).

To learn more about our Split the Plate program, visit <https://www.uufh.org/faith-in-action/in-the-community/split-plate/>

---

## Contacts

### STAFF EMAILS

Rev. Israel Buffardi, Minister - [minister@uufh.org](mailto:minister@uufh.org)

Dylan DeFeo, Music Director - [music@uufh.org](mailto:music@uufh.org)

Sandra Yens, Office Director/Sunday School Coordinator - [office@uufh.org](mailto:office@uufh.org)



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington | 109 Brown's Road | Huntington, NY 11743 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!