

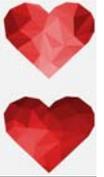


The Monmouth Unitarian Universalist

WWW.UUCMC.ORG

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Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Monmouth County, Lincroft, New Jersey

February 2017

February's Theme: *IDENTITY*

Afraid that our inner light will be extinguished or our inner darkness exposed, we hide our true identities from each other. In the process, we become separated from our own souls. We end up living divided lives, so far removed from the truth we hold within that we cannot know the "integrity that comes from being what you are. ~ Parker Palmer

Privacy is crucial to the sense of self. ~ Oliver Stone

We are what we pretend to be, so we must be careful about what we pretend to be. ~ Kurt Vonnegut

I can tell a lot about a person by what they choose to see in me. ~ Unknown

There is nothing noble in being superior to your fellow man; true nobility is being superior to your former self. ~ Ernest Hemingway

When people show you who they are, believe them the first time. ~ Maya Angelou

Soul Matters ~ Rev. Virginia Jarocho-Ernst

Being your minister is one of my most dearly held identities! It is a role that invites intimacy, honesty and ultimacy into our lives. If you have ever wondered when you should contact your minister to talk or think through a problem, here are few suggestions: (adapted from an unknown source)

- When you don't know your minister, but would like to...
- When you are facing a problem with your job, children, parents or anything or anyone else where a sympathetic friend might be helpful...
- When you've lost your job or are considering a new career...
- When you're having trouble in your relationship or marriage...
- When there is an illness or hospitalization. Remember that hospitals can no longer legally notify a congregation when you are in the hospital so I count on your call to be of support.
- When someone close to you has died, is critically ill, is struggling or is facing an operation...
- When there is a wedding planned...
- When you are considering a divorce...
- When you must make an important decision...
- When you are pregnant and glad you are or wish you weren't. When you would like to have children but can't.
- When you are unhappy or delighted about something at UUCMC...
- When you need someone to talk with in confidence...
- When you are facing a religious or ethical struggle...
- When you want to have your child dedicated...
- When you are feeling joyful and want to share your joy...



You could also call if you win the lottery, want to request a favorite hymn or have a good joke to tell. No matter what, please do call, email or text. I am here for you!

Rev. Virginia

Sunday Services — 10:30am

February 5

Jazz and UUs? Of course!

Rev. Gil Caldwell

As a community of people who dare to March to the beat of a different drummer, are reflective of the bold, improvisational, and call and response of Jazz, I have over the years been respectful of UUs because you are eclectic and embracing of what it means to be human. To be human is to reject the confines of dogma, and embrace the intellectual and spiritual journeys of a diversity of traditions. We will gather Jazz lovers, those who do not know that they are, and the few who think they could not love Jazz for a Jazz-shaped Lovefest! I expect "to see your face in the place!" *Music by Tom Brown, Mike Kaplan and Louise Chernosky.*

Rev. Caldwell is a retired United Methodist minister. Active in the Civil Rights Movement nationally, he traveled to Selma with Unitarian minister Jim Reeb and others. He participated in Reeb's Memorial Service at Arlington Street Church. Rev. Caldwell graduated from Boston University School of Theology (receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2016). He has been married for 59 years to Grace Dungee Caldwell; they live in Asbury Park.

February 12

Darwin Day – A Multigenerational Celebration of Curiosity

Rev. Virginia and Michelle McKenzie-Creech

International Darwin Day is meant to inspire people throughout the globe to reflect and act on the principles of intellectual bravery, perpetual curiosity, scientific thinking, and hunger for truth as embodied in Charles Darwin. As one of our 'famous Unitarians,' his intense curiosity about the natural world was a model for us today. *Music by UU Singers and Louise Chernosky.*

February 19

The Contradictory Multitudes

Rev. Virginia Jarocho-Ernst

Who are you? How many identities can you squeeze into your one skin? Ethnic, religious, gender or political – we all have multiple identities. How are they useful and how are they limiting? As Walt Whitman said, "Do I contradict myself? Very well, then I contradict myself; I am large, I contain multitudes." *Music by George Severini, pianist and composer.*

February 26

All or Nothing: The Third UU Source

Rev. Virginia Jarocho-Ernst

This third source looks to a broad set of religious sources for inspiration. Is there anything they all have in common or are they far too diverse to fit in this one sentence? Today we consider, "Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life." *Music by UU Singers and Louise Chernosky.*

Sunday Dialogs — 9am (coffee 8:45am)

February 5 – “Tea and Trumpence”

Ann Sherwood

Ever thought you would admire the Tea Party? Well, according to a group of former Congressional staffers, the TPs are extraordinarily effective at amplifying the voices of grassroots groups to resist congressional actions they oppose. We will discuss how we can use ideas from their document, *INDIVISIBLE: A PRACTICAL GUIDE for RESISTING THE TRUMP AGENDA*, to have fun, build community and preserve the progressive legacy of the last 50 years.

Ann Sherwood is an ardent supporter of the Sunday Morning Dialog and a charter member of the UUCMC Pussy Hat Project. Ann would like to thank the Trump-Pence Administration for liberating her inner activist.

February 12 – “Puerto Rico... notes from the inside”

Alicia Malave Diaz

See Puerto Rico through the eyes of a Boricua. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is an archipelago on the Caribbean Region, with a rich cultural history unknown to many people in the US. We will learn little-known facts about the history, politics, economy and culture of the island.

Alicia Malave Diaz, a Board member of our congregation, was raised and educated in Puerto Rico. She moved to NJ in 2001 and works as a teacher for Newark Public Schools.

February 19 – “Austerity Kills”

Dave Reskof, MD and George Wilner, MD

Our two retired physicians read this splendid book by another pair of physicians who also have economic degrees which clearly and shows how Austerity programs which were imposed on several European nations and also the fall of Communism caused the severe restriction of Health and Social programs in these several nations which led directly to an upsurge of lethal diseases and a palpable shortening of life expectancy. There are exceptions to this phenomenon, which will also be discussed.

Dave, a retired psychiatrist, and George, a retired hematologist, are active members of UUCMC. They are back by popular demand to share their knowledge of history and insight into the working of medical practice.

February 26 – “Foraging for Food in Our Local Area”

Molly Walker

Ever wonder what those berries are on a weedy bush and if they are edible? What about those persistent weeds that we have in our flower beds? Molly will go over some of the common things you will find in the area and resources to find out what it is, how to cook them and their nutritional benefits.

Molly Walker is a Nurse-Midwife who grew up with parents who loved nature. She has been identifying wild plants as long as she can remember. She is a devotee of Euell Gibbons, probably one of the first “Foody” authors. She and her husband Rick Goldberg spend many happy hours in the fields collecting wild berries and other foods; then Rick makes them into jam!

Religious Exploration Ministry

Building Bridges

Michelle McKenzie-Creech,
Credentialed Director of RE



What is your name? Who is in your family? What is your gender? All of these questions are a part of your identity, which we will explore as our theme this month. Identity is all the different parts of you on the inside and outside. Everyone has multiple identities and in some ways you are similar to others and in other ways you are different. It's what makes you unique and who you are as a person. Celebrating and learning who you are is important at all ages and stages of life.

Identity shapes who you are and how you think. Consider what it means to come from a family of privilege or if you grew up with very little. We also know that at times, people are treated differently because of their skin color, gender or religious identity. The great thing about our religious identity, Unitarian Universalism, is that we come from a free and open faith. You can come here with all your identities. It is one of the major reasons I became UU and believe so much in this faith.

As Unitarian Universalists, we believe that everyone is important and should be treated with respect and kindness. How does your identity shape you? It is essential to know about ourselves, as well as others to understand each other, and to treat each other fairly and with kindness. No matter who you are or where you come from, you are welcome here.

In faith,
Michelle

Religious Education News

RE REjoices:

It's time for **Mystery Friends**. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the door to the RE office starting **Feb. 12**. Children get matched with adults. Please join us for an excellent opportunity to become friends with someone new.

Save your stuff! The Youth Groups will be collecting items on 4/23 for selling on to sell at the Englishtown Auction the following weekend, 4/29. **Note:** We cannot take anything before 4/23.

RE REquests:

Please be sure that **no children are in the fenced playground without adult super-vision**. The very nice people at TLC share that space with us and we want to keep it nice.

RE REminders:

The youth are working on the same themes that are covered in worship and Covenant Circles. Share with each other what you have discovered about yourselves and your faith.

Some RE dates to REmember and REcord:

- Feb. 3: Youth Groups & Covenant Circle
- Feb. 11: Stories from the Heart (see p. 10)
- Feb. 24: Youth Groups meet

UU Parents Sharing Circle

This circle will offer a time to gather and share in a community around the complex and rewarding role of parenting. Each meeting our Director of Religious Education will bring a topic for discussion such as sharing the gifts of compassion, courage, choice, spirituality and justice with our children. This circle is not intended to be a parenting class, but rather a place to find companionship and spiritual support with fellow parents. Our first meeting is Sunday, **February 5th, 12-1:15pm**. Childcare is available.

Board News



Board of Governance 2016-2017

Interim President Senior VP Secretary	Joan Farkas Jan Boyarin	Treasurer VP Staff Resources VP at Large	Tom Smith Janet Freed Steve Vitale	VP at Large VP at Large Council Moderator	Alicia Malave-Diaz Stephen Alburthus Judy Stevens
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From the Board of Governance:

January was a busy month at UUCMC, with our first Soup Luncheon fundraiser, collection of needed items for Syrian refugees, sponsoring of two buses for the Women’s March on Washington and Social Action discussion on the Corruption of our Democracy. I have seen many new faces and hope this will lead to expanding our membership and community.

February has more excitement planned, with a return of Stories From the Heart fundraiser for Murray Grove on February 11 and two Racial Justice Task Force events, a showing of the film 13th on February 3 and a Forum: Voices of Black Experience, February 18. These are just a few of the exciting events scheduled with many more opportunities for performing arts series and social action events.

Every activity in our community is spear-headed by UUCMC members like you. In the coming months you will be asked to support this vibrant community in a variety of ways. March will begin both our Annual Stewardship Campaign as well as a planning weekend for our Capital Campaign. Our Nominating Committee will also be seeking new leaders for our Board and Council and other important positions. Please allow your enthusiasm for this place to include being generous with your time and financial support.

In Community,
The UUCMC Board

Dollar\$ and \$en\$e

Fiscal Year 2016-2017 (Total Budget \$477,600)

PLEDGE TARGET	PLEDGED	PLEDGE GAP	PLEDGES PAID
\$342,000	\$325,460	\$16,540	\$170,462

YTD INCOME	YTD EXPENSES	NET INCOME
\$233,380	\$216,594	\$16,786

Passing through the mid-point of our 2016-17 fiscal year, pledges remain on track. An increase in the amount pledged contributed to a narrowing of the pledge gap of about \$4,000 over the past month. Net income is receding to more normal levels for the middle of the fiscal year, reflecting expenses catching up a bit with pledge support and rental income. Your support in pledges and fundraising makes the wheels go around!

- Tom Smith, Treasurer

Earth Room Concerts

UUCMC’s series of folk/acoustic/singer-songwriter concerts in our sanctuary continues with:

Matt Nakoa with Kirsten Maxell
Saturday, March 11 @ 7:30pm



Matt Nakoa is an internationally touring singer/songwriter, recently appearing at The White House, throughout India, and regularly with folk icon Tom Rush. Trained to be a concert pianist, Matt was ultimately accepted as a vocalist to Berklee College of Music. Opener **Kirsten Maxwell** is often compared to Joan Baez, Judy Collins and Joni Mitchell, for her soaring vocals and retro-folk style. With a quick wit and commanding stage presence, Kirsten gives the impression of being more accomplished than her 24 years.

For more info about the music series, the artist, or the rest of the 2017 schedule, go to earthroomconcerts.org, or talk to Bob Kelley. Advance tickets will be on sale at coffee hour and on the website. *Bringing Folk Music to Monmouth County!*

Committee News

Committee Chairs

Building	Paul Newland/Irene Passmore	Finance & Administration	Tom Harbison	Public Information	Karen Kane
Caring		Grounds	Bonnie Lee Glaab	Religious Education	Aimee VanDuyne
Community Life	Heidi Bruhin	Membership	Betsy Sunada	Social Action	Elizabeth Sowell-Zak
Denominational Affairs	Rich Held	Music	Liz Tortorella	Sunday Morning Dialog	Linda Stehlik
		Program	Jane Reskof		

SOCIAL ACTION

Family Promise of Monmouth County received a check for \$836.25 as our **Share the Plate** recipient for December. Parker Family Health Center in Red Bank was our January Share the Plate recipient. January 15 was designated as the 5th Sunday, so our UUCMC **Racial Justice Task Force** received the full amount of our offering for that day. For February, it is **Planned Parenthood** of Central and Greater Northern New Jersey; our donation goes to the Planned Parenthood in Shrewsbury.

On Jan. 14, Tony Giordano and Rich Held led an interesting and informative meeting on **The Corruption of Democracy**, a topic chosen at the 2016 General Assembly as the Congregational Study/Action topic for 2016-2020. The next meeting is February 11, at 10:00. See p.7 for more information.

On Jan. 9, seven of us made a delicious vegetarian chili and served it to about 60 guests at the **Bayshore Lunch Program** in Keyport. Previously we had given \$100 each month to the Lunch Program, then met to serve the meal that one of their employees had prepared. We were very encouraged by the great response and plan to prepare as well as serve the lunches on the second Monday of each month.

Our next time to help out with meals and hosting with **Family Promise** at the Middletown United Methodist Church will be in April. Please contact Anne Shramko if you would like to help.

Get involved!

Email: socialactionuucmc@gmail.com



CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION TEAM

Connect the dots...poverty, homelessness, disease, food & water scarcity, regional conflicts, refugees, national security ...ALL worsened by the changing climate.

CCAT is our **local UU voice** addressing this pivotal issue.

Questions? climatelynn@gmail.com

Would you like to be part of a group exploring a **carbon offset plan** for UUCMC members? Contact Sarah Fischell, sfischell@comcast.net or 732-758-9654

Outside our meetinghouse walls, we are represented on the MC3--**Monmouth Community Climate Coalition** www.climatemonmouth.org

Next event: Academy-Award-winning Leonard diCaprio's documentary **Before the Flood**: "The science is clear. The future is not." Holmdel Community Church, 40 Main Street, Holmdel - Tuesday, February 21, 7pm.

Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) meets Saturday, Feb. 11, 11:30 am at UUCMC.

SAVE THE DATES:

Sat., April 29--Peoples' Climate March, Washington DC

Wed., May 17 at 7 pm--Non-Violent Communication workshop at Rumson Presbyterian

Questions? climatelynn@gmail.com



UUCMC Solar System's Lifetime Performance (since 9/22/06)

Reading taken 12/31/16

Total:	120,901 pounds of CO ₂ pollution avoided
109,911	186,853 pounds coal consumption avoided
Kwhrs	produced 330 barrels of oil consumption avoided

From the Racial Justice Task Force:

The Racial Justice Task Force is very excited to announce a series of events open to our community to encourage resistance and racial justice.

On Feb. 3 & 19:

The showing of Ava DuVernay’s film **13th** with a dialogue to follow led by Gilda Rogers.

On February 18, 5 -7pm:

Voices of Black Experience: Inspiring Us to Resist the New Jim Crow

The speakers will include; Topeka K. Sam, Paula McGhie, and dequi kionisadiki. These three women are on the front lines fighting against mass incarcerations. To find out more please view the flyer on our website or Facebook page.

On March 11:

Jennifer Lewinsky from Black Lives Matter Asbury Park will host a workshop at the meetinghouse to understand what underprivileged people go through when dealing with social services. It will be set up as a role-play workshop. More details will be forthcoming.

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**Thank you** to everyone who donated for the Syrian refugees. Your generosity is astounding!



**UUCMC Winter Common Read**

The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Hate

by The Rev. Dr. William Barber II and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove

The UUA describes their Common Read: “*The Third Reconstruction* offers helpful, practical guidance for engaging with justice movements. It challenges us to ground our justice work in moral dissent, even when there is no reasonable expectation of political success, and to do the hard work of coalition building in a society that is fractured and polarized.” The author is the leader of NAACP, N.C., who is remembered as a lauded speaker at the DNC 2016.

**Discussion: Feb. 16 at 1 pm** in the East Room

SPRING COMMON READ ~ **Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis** by J. D. Vance. Discussion will be in April.

This month Council recognizes and thanks. . . **LAURA LIENECK** Among Laura’s many contributions:

- Freely shares her expertise on accessibility, landscape, and integrated planning, giving instructive and practicable counsel
- Created a beautiful site improvement plan for our property – a beautiful document to dream over
- Worked with UUCMC, Middletown and Avaya property developer to address our parking needs

You frequently see Laura working in the kitchen, at congregational and RE events, and on committees. *Thank you, LAURA!!*

**Denominational Affairs**

At the kickoff meeting of our “**The Corruption of our Democracy**” study/action group on January 14<sup>th</sup>, it was clear that there is a strong desire to take action in the days and weeks ahead to counter the expected attack on the moral principles we hold dearly. We will certainly get actionable ideas and encouragement to act right here at UUCMC. The study/action group will share and publish resources/ events that members of the group hear about. The next meeting of our study/action group will be on Saturday **Feb. 11, 10am-noon** in the Community room. All are welcome.

Another good source is the UUA web page, **uua.org**. There was info on events around the country leading up to the inauguration. Stay tuned and stay engaged. Treat recent political events as a wakeup call.

New info for **General Assembly 2017, June 21-25** in New Orleans:

March 1st: Housing Reservations Open ~ Registration Open ~ Financial Aid Applications Available

Find more at **uua.org** or contact Rich at [richheld@gmail.com](mailto:richheld@gmail.com).

## Chinese New Year Soup Luncheon

**Sunday, February 12th, after service**

It's the Year of the ROOSTER! The 2017 Chinese New Year celebration started on January 27<sup>th</sup> and ended on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are a little late, but we thought it would be fun to include some Chinese entries to our Soup Luncheon choices. **Can you help?**

We need: (enough to feed 8-19 people)

1. Dumplings or Pot Stickers
2. Noodle Dishes
3. Fried Rice Dish
4. Egg rolls
5. Or SOUP SOUP SOUP

We will need some desserts, but our first priority is main dishes. If anyone has some **fun decorations** we can borrow, that would be great too. Please let Marinel or Liz deBeer if you can help and what you plan to make. Your contributions are much appreciated!!

**And Happy Chinese New Year!**

## MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!

This month, the UU Singers will offer songs that approach February's theme of identity from two angles. "Die Gedanken sind frei" playfully proclaims the liberating power of free thought in establishing identity: "My thoughts are free, I proudly profess them." "All Lifted Hearts are Free" by Jason Shelton asserts that many separate spiritual identities can still be bound by commonalities: "Many windows, one light; many waters, one sea; all lifted hearts are free." We are fortunate to have a **hearty jazz presence** in our services this month, as improvisation creates space for individual voices and collaboration. Our own Tom Brown will play clarinet and saxophone, and we'll also hear from guest musicians Mike Kaplan and George Severini.

The UU Singers are beginning to prepare for Music Sunday in May, and our piece is Frostiana (a beautiful and challenging setting of seven Robert Frost poems by Randall Thompson). If you would like to join the UU Singers for this special event, please email Louise. If you'd like to learn more about other ways to get involved musically at UUCMC, please visit our website, or contact Louise or a member of our Music Committee.

**Louise Chernosky, Music Director**  
music@uucmc.org

## GIFT CARDS WITH EXTRA IMPACT

Increase your impact on our bottom line!

Many of the gift cards we offer return around 5% to UUCMC. But there are quite a few that return significantly more. In the list below, those with the \* are cards we generally have in stock. The others can be ordered for quick delivery.

|                |               |                    |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| <b>9%</b>      | <b>10%</b>    | <b>13%</b>         |
| Barnes & Noble | Dean's*       | Bath & Body Works  |
| Starbucks*     | Chipotle      | JCrew              |
| Panera Bread*  | Macy's*       | Talbots            |
| Bass Pro Shops | Cabela's      |                    |
| Charley's Crab | AMC Theaters* | <b>14%</b>         |
| The Limited    | Jos A Bank    | The Gap/Banana     |
| Nook           |               | Republic/Old Navy* |
| Olive Garden   | <b>12%</b>    |                    |
| Pier 1         | Nike          | <b>16%</b>         |
|                | Boston Market | Lands End          |
|                | Harry & David | LLBean             |

Please consider these "Super Cards" when shopping this winter. Thank you for your support of this amazing program and UUCMC!



## Violin and Piano Concert

Joel DeWitt, violin, and  
Evan Schwartzman, piano

February 12, 4pm, in the Earth Room  
(Snow date Feb. 26)

- Mozart violin Sonata in A Major,
- Poulenc violin Sonata in d minor,
- Three Places in New Jersey, a suite for violin and piano by Evan Schwartzman,
- Prokofieff violin Sonata in f minor, opus 80.

Adults: \$20; Seniors/Students: \$15;  
Aged 12 & under: \$5.

***This is a fund-raising event  
benefiting UUCMC.***

Tickets will be sold at Coffee Hour and  
at the door.

**Monmouth Unitarian Universalist**

A monthly newsletter published by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Monmouth County 1475 West Front St, Lincroft, NJ 07738 Phone: 747-0707 Fax: 741-9399 www.uucmc.org

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*Unless otherwise noted, phone numbers in this newsletter have area code 732.*

*Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of each month at 12n. Please submit articles to uucmc@uucmc.org.*

*This newsletter is for news and articles about the activities of the congregation. All submissions should be <150 words.*

*The newsletter can be accessed via our website at [www.uucmc.org](http://www.uucmc.org). Click on News and then Newsletter. Copies are available without charge in the foyer.*



**UU Buddhist Meditation**

**EARTH SANGHA**

Come, come, whoever you are for sitting and walking meditation. We come to find our center. We come to find our moments of peaceful abiding, and to face our own suffering. We come every Thursday from 5:00pm-6:30 and every Friday from 10:30am-12. This is a Mindfulness/Zen Buddhist sitting group, the only goal of which is to sit with ourselves together. All are teachers, all are students...bowing to our inherent complexity and love.

For more info, email Elaine Held at [evdplate@gmail.com](mailto:evdplate@gmail.com).

**Tai Chi for Beginners**

**Mondays, 6:15 pm, Community Room**

Recognize the "qi" in your body. Learn the practice called "nanlaoshu" or "the art of how to grow old." It enables us to strengthen and straighten our bodies, increase flexibility and improve our general health and well-being. No sign-up necessary. Open to all. \$5 donation.

Dan Ciaglia: [danciaglia@gmail.com](mailto:danciaglia@gmail.com).

**LINCROFT ZEN SANGHA**

We are a community of practitioners in the Soto sect of Zen Buddhism. Our intention is to live out the *life* of a Bodhisattva, realizing the awakening of ourselves and serving all others. Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the Earth Room, after a Zen Buddhist liturgy, we sit zazen for 3 25-minute periods, with a short walking meditation between periods. Beginning instruction is offered at 6:30 pm before service and sitting begin. *Please email us to let us know of your first visit.*

**Info:** <http://lincroftzen.org> (See the "First Visit" tab) or [info@lincroftzen.org](mailto:info@lincroftzen.org)

**Adjunct Group**

**Monmouth Center for World Religions and Ethical Thought**

MCWRET received this invitation and is happy to pass it on. All are welcome.

**Community Anti-Racism Workshop** (Come to one or both)

Fri. Feb. 10, 7 pm – 8:30 pm Presentation: Apartheid Success Story;

Sat. Feb. 11, 9 am – 12:30 pm Workshop; Definitions, discussion, tools.

At the Lincroft Presbyterian Church, 270 Everett Rd. (just down the street!)

732-741-8921 ~ [www.lincroftPC.org](http://www.lincroftPC.org)

Contact: Presbyterian Pastors Diane R. Ford, W. Mark Koenig, Alonzo Johnson.

The event is free; donations are accepted to defray costs of event.

Our nation is blessed with a great deal of diversity. As we seek to live together, we face the challenge of working to dismantle racism. Meet people who care about racism and people who are making a positive difference. Learn a deeper definition for "racism", the impact of racism. and a language to discuss and dismantle racism. Choose what you can do next.

[www.interfaith-mcwret.org](http://www.interfaith-mcwret.org)

Contact Joe Ritacco (MCWRET) [jritacco@comcast.net](mailto:jritacco@comcast.net) or

Kristine Binaco (UUCMC & MCWRET) [uubooklover@verizon.net](mailto:uubooklover@verizon.net).

## Upcoming Events!

### Five Questions: A Theological Process for Discovery and Growth

Rev. Virginia Jarocha-Ernst, facilitator

Thursdays at 7pm, **February 9 - March 9**

Join a group of curious UU souls to explore ancient theological questions and to articulate your own faith journey more clearly. UUs tend to believe what they must based upon our own experience, and we are held accountable to our beliefs and actions within a community that calls us to be our best selves. Join in the conversation and take your next step on your journey here.

RSVP on our website in the Adult RE section or send an email to [dre@uucmc.org](mailto:dre@uucmc.org).

Session 1: Who am I?

Session 2: How Do I Know?

Session 3: Who or What is in Charge?

Session 4: What is My Purpose?

Session 5: What Does My Death Mean?

### Social Action Film Series: 13th

Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm &

Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

A jaw-dropping exposure of how the **13th amendment** to the US constitution has led to the new Jim Crow (by legalizing unpaid labor through incarceration), 13th is short-listed for an Academy Award this year. Gilda Rogers will moderate post-film discussion. Screenings are in conjunction with the Feb. 18 racial justice panel, Voices of Black Experience: Inspiring Us to Resist the New Jim Crow.

Questions? Email Dan Ciaglia: [danciaglia@gmail.com](mailto:danciaglia@gmail.com)



### Stories from the Heart

Saturday, Feb. 11, 6:30 -9:30 pm

UUCMC is hosting our second annual fundraiser for Murray Grove Retreat and Renewal Center, the birthplace of Universalism in America, located in Lanoka Harbor, NJ. Join us for this community-building, inspirational fun (d-raising) night. You won't regret it!



## The Monmouth Unitarian Universalist

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

of Monmouth County

1475 West Front Street

Lincroft, New Jersey 07738



Address Correction Requested