



MAKING THE CONNECTIONS

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Essex County

January-February 2016

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MARK IT DOWN

- ◆ Monthly Sunday: FAITH+WORKS, Sunday, 15 Jan, 5 PM, Parish Hall
- ◆ Board of Trustees, Monday, 23 Jan, 7 PM, So-nan Room
- ◆ Monthly Sunday: FAITH+WORKS, Sunday, 26 Feb, 5 PM, Sanctuary

Where every mind is free and every soul is welcome!

Editorial: Changes, Changes, Changes by Gregory Giacobe

Happy New Year! 2017 is shaping up to be ripe with change, for the nation and for our small faith community here in Orange. Some welcomed, some not, but all challenging and, hopefully, elucidating. The pace, in fact, has picked up so much, I felt a need to pen this editorial, my first since becoming newsletter editor. Mainly, I have seen my job as passing on information and news about the church, its members and friends, and its doings, as well as the denomination, onto our members and friends to keep them abreast and have a record of what is happening to those who follow us in the years ahead. As a presence, I have kept myself low-key. That will continue, but the nature of what is about to transpire makes it difficult to relate without some editorializing. So, I decided that this should be the frontpiece for this month's newsletter.



Faith + Works: New Worship Program

Beginning this month we introduce a new worship program for our monthly services named after the dual themes of our new ministry here in Orange. Building on what has been established in the Sunset Sundays and the Spirituality Group, F+W will be more theme-based with a guest speaker, and an opportunity for community-building. Please see the article on page 2 for more details. If you have any ideas for a guest speaker for an upcoming monthly service, please contact the church office at office@essexuu.org.

Newsletter Goes Quarterly

That's correct! The church newsletter will go to a quarterly schedule beginning with the March 2017 issue. This transition issue will

cover January and February. I will try to get as much information on events and happenings for the upcoming quarter as can be determined at press time, but obviously, this means more upcoming church and HUUB events being publicized through our website and Facebook page. Please bookmark both at essexuu.org and www.facebook.com/FUUCEC/, respectively, and check periodically for updates.

Growth of the HUUB

With the success of its Matching Campaign on Faithify, the UU crowd-sourcing site, the HUUB is now poised to continue and expand its presence at First UU and in Orange. Featured in this issue is a meeting of the Orange Interfaith Coalition, held on Tuesday, 13 December, where the HUUB brought together our allies in the University of Orange, RADICAL: Orange, Lanbi, the Laundry Workers Center and Wind of the Spirit

with local religious and civic leaders to discuss making Orange a "sanctuary city". Details on page 3. First up for January, as we go to press, is a potluck on Monday, 9 January 2017 with the theme of "Building Solidarity", hosted by RADICAL: Orange and the University of Orange. Next up, on Saturday, 14 January at 2 PM, is a U of O workshop Urban Alchemy. For more information, please contact the church office at info@essexuu.org or call 973-874-0010 or check out our website or Facebook page. See you at church.



INTRODUCING: FAITH + WORKS

First UU has taken to heart the Bible saying "Faith without works is dead" (James 2:26). We are learning to live our faith through works via the HUUB, which opens our buildings to our Orange neighbors. But to sustain that effort, we know we need more FAITH. In these challenging times we turn to wise people who can articulate FAITH and describe how their faith supports their WORKS. Join us for a six-part series called "FAITH+WORKS" on occasional Sunday evenings for this church year. Invited guests speakers will tell us of how their faith motivates their work, and how we can do the same. Please join us on the dates below.

15 Jan *The Red Road* Dr. Margaux Simmons Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Musician- Dr. Margaux Simmons

This musician, composer, music theorist, and teacher will share her take on FAITH+WORKS. Margaux will draw connects to her work with some of her Lakota Sioux family members who are currently on the front lines as Water Protectors, opposing the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) at Standing Rock.

Margaux Simmons is a composer, flutist, performer, teacher and activist. She earned a BA in music performance from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, OH, and an M.A. and PH. D in music composition from the University of California at San Diego. She has performed extensively in Ohio and throughout Europe and recorded three albums with the performance ensemble, The Pyramids. Margaux has also traveled, studied and performed music throughout Africa, Canada and NYC. She taught music theory, music composition and music improvisation at Hampshire College from 1987 to 2007. Margaux also worked as a curator for The Museum at Wounded Knee, Wounded Knee, SD, on the Pine Ridge Sioux Reservation from 2007 to 2010. Currently, she teaches music theory at the University of Orange, and music instruments at the Calderone School of Music in East Hanover and Springfield, NJ, and is currently working with the University of Orange to organize the Music City Festival for June 2017.

26 Feb *An Evening With Michael Lally* Michael Lally Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Musician - Bill Stafford (invited), Usher - Gregory Giacobe, Social Hour Host - TBA

Michael will talk some, and read some from his books - now 29 published, mostly poetry, including a few that have won awards and the two latest SWING THEORY and THE VILLAGE SONNETS - on how he had a spiritual awakening while living and working in Hollywood (acting on TV, NYPD BLUE, DEADWOOD, etc. and writing for and acting in movies DRUGSTORE COWBOY, WHITE FANG, etc.), and more.

Michael Lally is poet and the author of 29 books of poetry. Part of the New York School of poetry, Michael counts among his major influences the poets Frank O'Hara and William Carlos Williams, as well as writer William Saroyan. Born in Orange in 1942 and raised in South Orange, he joined the United States Air Force in 1962, where he spent more than four years as an enlisted man, and later used the G.I. Bill to attend the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop. In 1972 he wrote the autobiographical "South Orange Sonnets" which received a New York Poetry Center Discovery Award. With a move to Los Angeles in 1982, Michael began working as an actor in movies and TV (as Michael David Lally), mostly as a bad guy and the occasional good guy, while his writing found its way into several movies.



**2016 Canvass Wrap-Up
& Membership Review**

The Church concluded its 2016 Canvass short of its stated goal of \$13000. As of 22 December 2016, we received signed pledge cards from 10 households totaling \$10,950 of which \$6050 have already been given. Please remember that pledge cards and payments received are for the current fiscal year. In addition, we had five Friends pledge during the Canvass for another \$1225 and made donations totaling \$925. Together, the Canvass received pledges amounting to \$12,175 (93.65%) and donations totaling \$6975. We thank all who participated for your generosity. Donation notices for the calendar year 2016 will be sent out shortly.

The conclusion of the Canvass gives the Board of Trustees the opportunity to review and update the church's Membership Roster. This is done to prepare for the congregational certification to the UUA that is due by 1 February 2017. The Board Secretary, in coordination with the Treasurer, will determine which Members have remained active in the church over that past year. Notice of any change of status will be sent to Members deemed inactive with an explanation about how to re-activate their membership if desired. Membership notices will be sent out after the Board meeting of Monday, 23 January 2017.

However, you don't have to wait until notices arrive. You can still make a pledge and donation. We encourage Members and Friends, old and new, near and far - that if this spiritual community has meant anything to you, has given you spiritual, emotional and intellectual sustenance through the years that has shaped your lives and hearts - to show your gratitude by pledging your support for First UU's continued existence. All proceeds are tax-deductible. Please be generous. Checks can be made out and sent to:

First UU Church of Essex County
PO Box 998
Orange NJ 07051-0998

If you have any further questions, please contact Church Treasurer Bill Slezak at treasurer@essexuu.org.



**New Newsletter Schedule
Starting 1 March 2017**

Beginning 1 March, the First UU Newsletter will have a quarterly schedule. Future newsletters will be published on or about 1 March (Spring), 1 June (Summer), 1 September (Autumn) and 1 December (Winter). Deadline for submissions will be on the 23rd of the month before publication. The table below summarizes the new schedule:

Issue	Publication Date	Submission Deadline
Spring	1 March	23 February
Summer	1 June	23 May
Autumn	1 September	23 August
Winter	1 December	23 November



THE HUUB IN ACTION

First UU and the HUUB played host as the site of a meeting of the Orange Interfaith Coalition with some of our community partners and tenants - Lanbi, Laundry Workers Center, Wind of the Spirit and University of Orange. On hand were: Charlie Wirene, HUUB Director; Gregory Giacobe, First UU Board Secretary; Donna Williams, City Councilmember at-large. The meeting took place on Tuesday, 13 December to discuss the ways and means to pass an ordinance designating Orange as a "sanctuary city" in light of the pending Trump administration.



January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NEW YEARS DAY	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 BUILDING SOLIDARITY Parish Hall 6 PM	10	11	12	13	14 URBAN ALCHEMY Parish Hall, 2 PM
15 FAITH+WORKS: Red Road, Parish Hall, 5 PM	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Board of Trustees, Sonnen Room, 7 PM	24	25	26	27	28 PODCAST WORKSHOP II Parish Hall, 2 PM
29	30	31				

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 FAITH+WORKS: Michael Lally, Sanctuary, 5 PM	27	28				

HUUB Matching Campaign A Success

\$5,800

PLEGGED OF \$5,000 GOAL

37 0

FUNDERS HOURS TO GO

PROJECT EXPIRED

This project will only be funded if at least \$5,000 is pledged by December 26, 2016.

On 26 December 2016, the HUUB had a great Christmas present when it successfully reached and surpassed its goal in its matching campaign. The final tally recorded 37 donations amounting to \$5800 toward the HUUB's mission of "creat[ing] a public space to advance the UU values of strengthening democracy, building community, and respecting the worth and dignity of every person. We are opening the church's doors as a resource for individuals, groups, organizations, and institutions in Orange to work together to make it a healthier, happier, and more just city – living the pursuit of beloved community." The HUUB now qualifies, and will receive, an additional \$5000 from the Unitarian Universalist Fund Program's Fund for Social Responsibility. "We were thrilled to get funding from the UUA," said First UU President and member of the HUUB Board Mindy Fullilove. "This is a great outcome, and earns us the match [ing grant] from UUA. Thanks to all!" In all, 37 donors contributed in amounts ranging from \$25 to \$1000 with nearly \$2000 gained from a dozen contributors in the last 10 days of the campaign. "Awesome" said longtime church member and First UU Board Trustee Darcy Hall. "Thank you to all who have helped us get here," said HUUB Managing Director Charlie Wirene. "The more we raise, the more we can ask for in the future! Onwards!" Figures have not been confirmed, but should bring the total income for the HUUB at about \$25,000 for this fiscal year so far.

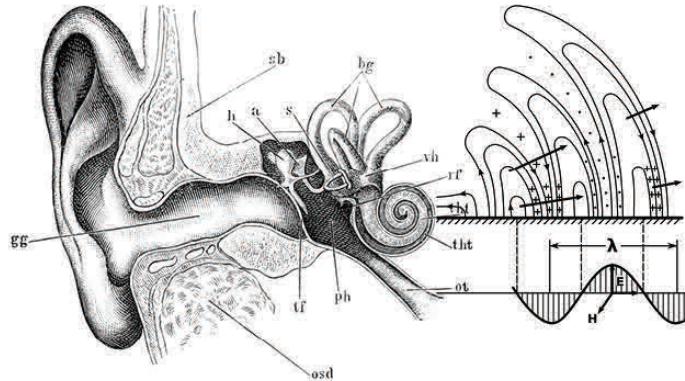
ABOUT THE CHURCH

ABOUT THE CHURCH highlights important events in the lives of our Members. If you have a joy or concern you would like to share with the church membership, please contact the Church Office at office@essexuu.org or 973-674-0010, option 9. We have updates below:

- Belated happy birthdays to longtime member TOM DORMAN who celebrated his on 1 January 2017, and to BILL SLEZAK who celebrated his on 28 December 2016. We wish you both many more!
- Trustee CINDY LONG has retired from her position at Valley National Bank effective 31 December 2016. Well done, Cindy!

- Upcoming birthdays include Trustee DARCY HALL on 8 February 2017, and Board Secretary GREGORY GIACOBÉ on 15 February 2017.
- Our former minister, REV. DARRELL BERGER will be retiring from the ministry at the end of this church year. He is currently the interim minister at the Unitarian Church of Staten Island.
- The Church Office would still like to hear from HAROLD MILLS. If any reader has seen or spoken to him in the last 12 months, please contact the Church Office above. Thank you.





FREE YOUR STORIES, RAISE YOUR VOICE A Podcast Making Workshop

Part 1

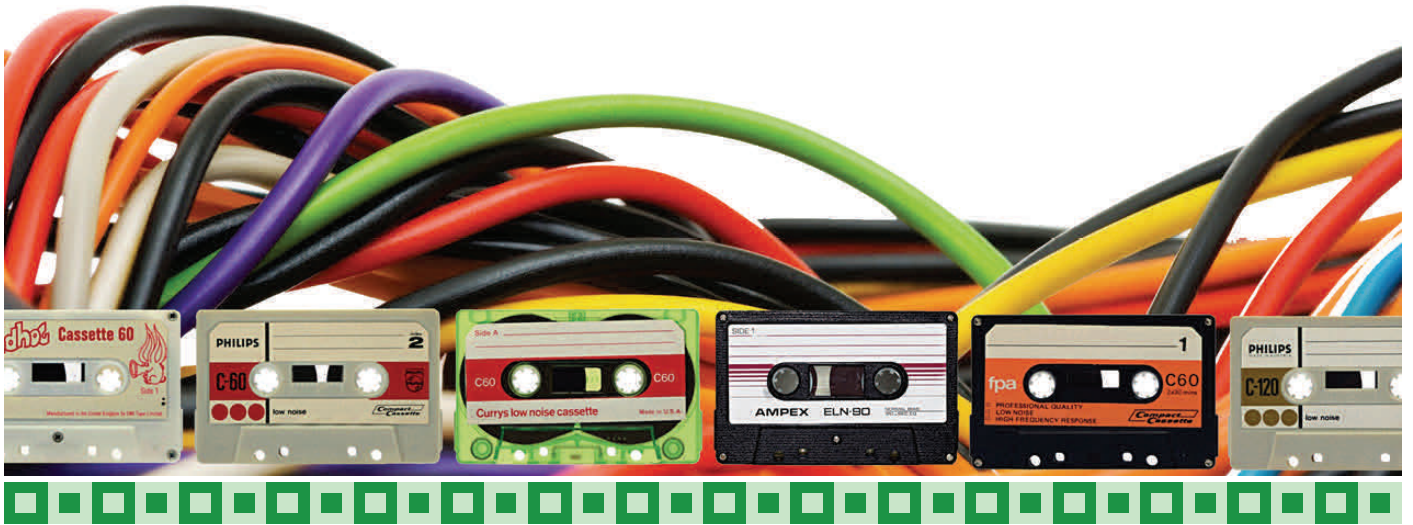
Story development & recording
(Thursday, January 5, 7-9:30pm)

Hale House, 47 Cleveland Street, Orange, NJ

Part 2

Post-production & launch party
(Saturday, January 28, 2pm - 6pm)

HUUB, 35 Cleveland Street, Orange, NJ



Phoebe & Her Unicorn

By Dana Simpson





Urban Alchemy Seminar: **FINDING WHAT WE'RE FOR**

Urban Alchemy teaches us that we have to find what we're FOR. Join us for an urbanism workshop that will help activists and community leaders design comprehensive urban agendas and identify their own critical next steps.

Saturday, January 14, 2pm - 4pm
HUUB, 35 Cleveland Street, Orange, NJ



HOME-COMING BARBECUE
IN HONOR OF
New Jersey's Best Known Son
PAUL ROBESON
SUNDAY, JULY 29, 1956
2.00 P. M.
AT THE HOME OF
Ernest & Margaret Thompson
397 Olcott Street, Orange, N. J.

Horseshoe Pitching • Ping Pong

COME ONE! COME ALL!
WELCOME PAUL HOME AND HAVE FUN

Third International Women's Convocation

Asilomar Conference Center Monterey Peninsula CA USA

February 16-19, 2017

- **Network** with committed UUs from around the world
- **Learn** about groundbreaking initiatives transforming lives
- **Share and grow** to inspire action and change
- **Celebrate and empower** through worship, art, and music
- **Nurture your spirit** on the shores of the Pacific Ocean

Weaving Global Partnerships... Forging a Just Future Together

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Cecilia A. Conrad, PhD
Managing Director,
MacArthur Fellows Program



bell hooks, PhD
Writer, professor,
feminist theorist, activist



Rev. Florence Caplow
UU minister,
Soto Zen priest, author

Meet the UUA Presidential Candidates at the Friday evening Candidate Forum



*An action organization of
Unitarian Universalists and
people of progressive faith*

Registration fee: \$350

Discounts for ministers, LREDA members,
young adults, and groups of two or more

Pre and Post Convocation Tours available

More information and registration:

IntlWomensConvo.org

admin@icuw.com



Roshi James Ishmael Ford



Unitarian Universalist Buddhist Fellowship

Convocation 2017

March 31—April 2

Menucha Retreat Center
Corbett, Oregon

Learning the Language of Dragons: Zen Meditation and Zen Koans

James Ishmael Ford, Zen teacher and Unitarian Universalist minister says that Zen meditation, both its "just sitting" or "silent illumination" discipline and "koan introspection" are in fact the language of dragons. In our time together we will be introduced to the grammar of dragons, a bit of the vocabulary, and with that to throw ourselves into a little dragon language immersion.

Menucha Lodge overlooks the beautiful Columbia River Gorge, designated as a national scenic area with the greatest concentration of waterfalls in North America.

For more information and registration visit:

<http://uubf.org>

We are on the web: essexuu.org

MAKING THE CONNECTIONS

Mailing Address:
PO Box 998.
Orange NJ 07051-0998

Office & Meeting Address:
35 Cleveland St
Orange NJ 07050-2709

Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays &
Fridays, 9 AM—3 PM

Church Phone: 973-674-0010

Office Email: office@essexuu.org

Web: essexuu.org

**President: Mindy Thompson Ful-
lilove**

**Vice President Pro Temp: Frank
Barszcz**

Treasurer: Bill Slezak

Secretary: Greg Giacobe

Administrator: Greg Giacobe

Sexton: Tony A Jones

HUUB Director: Charlie Wirene



WE VALUE: Community... Explora-
tion... Fellowship... Spirituality...
Liberal Religious Education... Di-
versity... Freedom... and Action.

OUR VISION: To be a life-
affirming liberal religious commu-
nity where people of diverse be-
liefs, ideas and background come
together to provide spiritual and
intellectual growth to one another
and to work together in Orange,
New Jersey for a greater good in
the world.

OUR MISSION: To study and
practice religion in freedom and
fellowship. To provide support
and care for our community and
the community at large.

Founded in Orange in 1890 as
the First Unitarian Church of Es-
sex County, the congregation has
worshipped in the present Sanc-
tuary since its construction in
1892-3. The Church continues
the ministry of the Union Univer-
salist Society (also known as the
Church of the Redeemer),
founded as the First Universalist
Society of Newark in 1834.



**First Unitarian Universalist
Church of Essex County**

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Making the connections

