



MAKING THE CONNECTIONS

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Essex County

Spring 2017

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Where every mind is free and every soul is welcome!

Editorial: Hollywood In Orange/Rev. Osgood's Chair by Gregory Giacobe

Holding a crowd not seen for many years on a Sunday, First UU hosted a gala night of celebration on 26 February as author, poet and actor Michael Lally presented a FAITH+WORKS service entitled, "Hollywood Awakenings". As part of the festivities, attendees were encouraged to dress in their finest and stroll down the church's own red

carpet in a "pre-pre-Oscar" event. In all, over 30 people attended the event, and an uplifting time was had by all. Pictured are Molly Kaufman (top left) and Aubrey Murdock (aka AJ Biscuits) (top right) from the University of Orange, and Mindy Fullilove, First UU President, with Sexton Tony Jones (bottom).

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MARK IT DOWN

- ◆ Board of Trustees, Monday, 20 Mar, 7 PM, Sonen Room
- ◆ Monthly Sunday: FAITH+WORKS, Sunday, 2 Apr, 5 PM, Sanctuary
- ◆ Board of Trustees, Monday, 15 May, 7 PM, Sonen Room
- ◆ Flower Communion, Sunday, 21 May, 1 PM, Parish Hall
- ◆ Annual Congregational Meeting, 21 May, 3 PM, Parish Hall
- ◆ Monthly Sunday: FAITH+WORKS, Sunday, 4 Jun, 5 PM, Sanctuary



Monthly Sundays

Gatherings will starting at 5 PM

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.

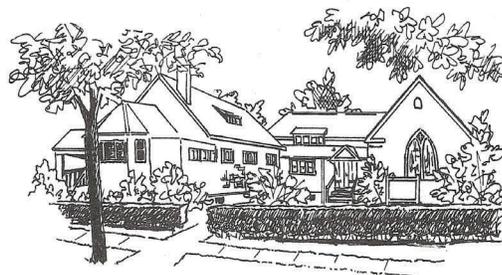
2 Apr TBD Khemani Gibson Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Musician- TBD

Khemani Gibson was born in Kingston, Jamaica before his parents migrated and settled in Orange, NJ in the early 1990s. Growing up, Khemani always loved storytelling and history ranging from the Anansi stories his mother told him and his siblings to learning about notable black figures such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Billie Holiday, Jackie Robinson and others during black history month which he looked forward towards every school year. In high school, Khemani participated in the murmur oral history project where he interviewed orange residents and learned about the rich history that existed in his hometown. Prior to the project, Khemani viewed Orange negatively and couldn't wait to go to college and leave. However, the project taught Khemani the beauty of uncovering lost histories about people and place taken for granted. For this reason Khemani studied history at Drew University where he began to apply the lessons he learned from murmur and his love for good storytelling to uncover the history of his own family's migratory history in Panama during the construction of the Panama Canal. He also served a consultant on the hidden treasures project working with students from the Humanities core at the scholars Academy as they also learned about the richness of Orange's history. Currently khemani is a history PhD Candidate at New York University where he studies the lives and communities of black immigrants in twentieth century Panama as well as a community organizer in Orange that seeks to increase youth civic and social participation in his hometown.

**21 May Flower Communion Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Musician - Bill Stafford, Usher - Gregory
1 PM Giacobe, Social Hour Host - TBD**

In this new iteration of Dr. Capec's idea, we encourage everyone to join us this day to bring and plant flowers on the beautiful border of our new walkway! Please gather in the Parish Hall for a brief ceremony before proceeding to the front lawn. Please dress comfortably and bring a trowel, if you have one! Donations of plantings welcomed (perennials preferred)!

This will be followed by our Annual Congregational Meeting at 3 PM in the Parish Hall.



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**Annual Congregational Meeting
21 May 2017 at 3 PM**



The First UU Church of Essex County's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, 21 May 2017 at 3:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Among the items planned to be presented are:

- Approval of the minutes of the 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting. The text is available for review on the church website, www.essexuu.org. Hard copies will be available in limited supply at the Annual Meeting. We urge those with web access to review these minutes and send any corrections, additions or omissions to the Secretary at secretary@essexuu.org by 6 PM Monday, 15 May 2017.
- Reports from Officers and staff. These will be combined in an Annual Report that will also be available on the church website no later than 17 May 2017. Please review periodically for updates.
- Approval of the budget for the 2017/18 church year.
- Discussion & Vote on Bylaw Revisions on Church Governance, including reducing the size of the Board of Trustees to five, eliminating the Nominating Committee, and eliminating term limits.
- Election of Officers, Trustees and Nominating Committee members.

If you have any questions, please the church office at 973-674-0010, or e-mail at office@essexuu.org.

**New Newsletter Schedule
Starting 1 March 2017**

Beginning 1 March, the First UU Newsletter will have a quarterly schedule. Future newsletters will 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
Summer	1 June	23 May
Autumn	1 September	23 August
Winter	1 December	23 November
Spring	1 March	23 February

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:

- Birthday wishes to member Carol Bernard on 21 March.
- 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.



BUILDING SOLIDARITY:

S.E.R.C. Potluck Series
(social emergency response center)

Monday nights from 6-9pm at the HUUB
35 Cleveland Street, Orange NJ
February 13th, March 13th & April 17th



March 2017

- 13 | Solidarity Potluck, Parish Hall, 6 PM
- 20 | Board of Trustees, Sonen Room, 7 PM

April 2017

- 2 | FAITH+WORKS: Khemani Gibson, Sanctuary, 5 PM

May 2017

- 15 | Board of Trustees, Sonen Room, 7 PM
- 21 | Flower Communion, Parish Hall, 1 PM
- Annual Congregational Meeting, Parish Hall, 3 PM

June 2017

- 4 | FAITH+WORKS: Doug Farrand, Sanctuary, 5 PM
- 21 | General Assembly 2017 @ New Orleans Convention Center, New Orleans, LA
- 25
- 30 | [*Church Year Ends*]

Editorial [cont.]

On 8 February, a long disused and nearly forgotten piece of First UU's history was given a makeover, thanks to HUUB Managing Director Charlie Wirene. The chair, near right, was the possession and usual place to find our past minister, Rev. Dr. Phillips Endecott Osgood (far right), who served our church from 1949 until his death in 1956. The chair (as well as the vestry in the rear of the Sanctuary) were dedicated in his honor. Born on 11 May 1882 and raised in the historic town of North Attleboro MA, Dr Osgood was the son of an Episcopal clergyman. He continued his father's legacy, becoming an ordained Episcopal priest in 1908 and serving congregations in Massachusetts, Philadelphia and Minneapolis. A change in his theological outlook prompted his resignation from his last charge as Rector of Emmanuel Church in Boston in the spring of 1945. A prolific writer and accomplished painter, he had about a dozen titles published, most concerning liturgical drama, as well as many articles in denominational and popular periodicals. His ordination as a Unitarian minister occurred simultaneously with his start at First UU, then the First Unitarian Church of Essex County. We thank Ayman Upholstery of west Orange for their fine work.



Unitarian Universalist
Legislative Ministry
of New Jersey



UULMNJ April Plenary

The "General Assembly" for UULMNJ and supporters from across New Jersey:
Saturday, April 8 * 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, 113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood NJ

• **Keynote Speaker:**
The Rev. Charles Boyer
 African Methodist Episcopal minister, inspirational speaker and NJ legislative activist

Theme for the day: "All that UULMNJ CAN do to push for justice and stand against the inequities of Trump and Congress' plan for America"

Task Force meetings: Immigration Reform, Gun Violence Prevention, Criminal Justice Reform, Environmental Justice, Reproductive Justice, and Economic Justice

Liaison and Newcomers Training Opportunity

Why come to the UULMNJ April Plenary?
 Simply put: because we already have a clear VISION, TRACK RECORD, and UU-inspired ORGANIZATION up and running, ready to champion our liberal religious values in the public square.

UULMNJ focuses entirely on the most important issues of the day that excite (and rile up) UUs and our allies across New Jersey. So come on DOWN, share in that energy and spirit that draws us to this faith and will propel us forward, together, through whatever is to come.



Monthly Sundays cont.

4 Jun TBD Doug Farrand Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Musician - Doug Farrand, Usher - Gregory Giacobe, Social Hour Host - TBA

Douglas Farrand is a composer, musician, educator, and learner. Having lived in and around Nottinghamshire (UK), Cork (Ireland), Singapore, Ohio and Upstate New York (US), he currently resides in Newark NJ and works in Orange NJ. He directs and teaches with Sonic Explorations, a K-4 daily, free music program at the Oakwood Avenue Community School, and works with the music department of the University of Orange, a free people's urbanism school. Douglas' primary interests are in music and teaching that invite us to explore our myriad processes of listening and embody a collective investigation of place, community, and personhood. His work has been realized in the USA, Canada, Belgium and Switzerland, and includes close collaborative work with fellow composers, performers, artists, educators, & students. Douglas studied composition privately with Craig Shepard and at Oberlin Conservatory with Josh Levine and Ashley Fure. He has received additional mentorship in composition, improvisation, musicianship, and education from Christopher Fox, Tim Feeney, and Vic Rawlings.



60th ANNUAL DINNER

Sunday, April 2nd, 2017

Hasbrouck Heights Hilton
650 Terrace Avenue Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey 07604

12:00 – 4:00 PM (12:00 – 12:45 PM *Socializing*; 1:00 PM *Lunch*)

HONORED GUESTS AND RECIPIENT OF THE DOROTHY ELDRIDGE PEACEMAKER AWARD:

CHRIS HEDGES - JOURNALIST, ACTIVIST, AUTHOR “RESISTING AMERICAN FASCISM”

Also Honoring:

First Friends of NJ and NY

Recipients of the Sylvia and Oscar Ackelsberg Peace Award

E. Betty Levin

Peace Action Person of the Year



Christopher Lynn "Chris" Hedges is an American journalist, activist, author, and Presbyterian minister. He has written 11 books, including the New York Times best seller “Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt” (2012), which he co-authored with the cartoonist Joe Sacco.

Hedges previously spent nearly two decades as a foreign correspondent in Central America, the Middle East, Africa and the Balkans. He has reported from more than 50 countries and has worked for The Christian Science Monitor, National Public Radio, The Dallas Morning News and The New York Times, for which he was a foreign correspondent for 15 years.

Hedges is a senior fellow at The Nation Institute in New York City. He has taught at Columbia University, New York University, Princeton University and The University of Toronto. He currently teaches prisoners at a maximum-security prison in New Jersey.

Hedges holds a B.A. in English literature from Colgate University and a Master of Divinity degree from Harvard University. In addition to writing a weekly original column for Truthdig, he has written for Harper’s Magazine, Le Monde, The New Statesman, The New York Review of Books, Adbusters, Granta, Foreign Affairs and other publications. In 2014, Chris Hedges was ordained as a minister at the Second Presbyterian Church. He lives in Princeton.

Reservations Required

Please visit <http://www.njpeaceaction.org> or call **973-259-1126**

Dinner tickets: \$75 before March 17th (\$85 after March 17th).

UUMAC '17

Across Time, Across Generations

Our society is changing rapidly. In the midst of this change there can often be conflict among different generations. What are the defining traits of different generations? How can understanding our differences help us live more harmoniously? How must our congregations change to accommodate younger generations?



UUMAC 2017
uumac.org



Come be
with us...

all are
WELCOME





UUMAC

Unitarian Universalist Mid-Atlantic Community

Each summer, we come together as a spiritual retreat, build time for reflection and celebration, reunite with friends, and enjoy the community we create together.

A sampling of our activities...

Daily Worship and Theme Talk

Enjoy morning worship and a lively theme talk each day.

Workshops

Formal and informal workshops on a variety of topics.

Outdoor Activities

Rafting, biking, swimming, and walking about the campus are part of what make camp fun.

Time for Reflection

Evening vespers provide a space for quiet contemplation.

Children's Programming

Kids 0-18 and Young Adults have age-appropriate programming.

Group Activities

Dancing, games, and improv theater bring out our silly side!



Rev. Allison Palm, Theme Speaker

She currently serves as the Minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua, NH. Rev. Allison graduated from Andover Newton Theological School in 2013 with a Masters of Divinity and a Certificate in Pastoral Care and Counseling, and has previously served churches in Massachusetts and Long Island.



Rev. Alison Hyder, Minister

She received her Masters in Divinity from Howard University and served the Provincetown UU Meeting House for 11 years, as well as interim ministries in Palmer, MA and Wilmington Delaware. She is currently working as a therapist on Cape Cod. Alison is a long-time Star Islander and is currently co-chair of the Star Arts Conference.



We are located on the campus of DeSales University, located in Center Valley, PA. We meet July 9-15, 2017. Food and dorm-style housing for the week is included, and scholarships are available.

We are the regional camp for UUs and have been around for more than 35 years! Each year we have newcomers as well as a reunion of old friends. Intergenerational by design, we invite everyone to attend, singly or in groups, young, old, and in between.

VISIT US AT UUMAC.ORG

Creating community



3RD
ANNUAL

Legislative Ministry

MUUSIC Festival

Central Unitarian Church (Paramus)

March 18, 2017

1-3 pm

Doors open at 12:30!

Participants:

Central Unitarian Church Paramus

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton

Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair

Dorothea Dix Unitarian Universalist Community

First Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Hunterdon County

Morristown Unitarian Fellowship

Unitarian Church in Summit

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Somerset Hills

**Come early to enjoy the CUC band starting at
12:45!**

Show starts PROMPTLY at 1pm.

All proceeds will benefit the work of the

Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of New Jersey

A voice for justice, equality and in the Garden State



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.



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