



MAKING THE CONNECTIONS

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Essex County

Fall 2018

Inside this issue:

Monthly Sundays	2
Honorary Street Naming	3
About The Church	3
Newsletter Schedule	3
Calendar of Events	4

MARK IT DOWN

- ◆ *Building Solidarity Potluck*, Monday, 24 Sep, 6 PM, Parish Hall
- ◆ Monthly Sunday: FAITH+WORKS, Sunday, 30 Sep, 5 PM, Sanctuary
- ◆ Board of Trustees, Thursday, 11 Oct, 7:30 PM, via Zoom
- ◆ Monthly Sunday: FAITH+WORKS, Sunday, 21 Oct, 5 PM, Sanctuary
- ◆ *Building Solidarity Potluck*, Monday, 22 Oct, 6 PM, Parish Hall
- ◆ Monthly Sunday: FAITH+WORKS, Sunday, 18 Nov, 5 PM, Sanctuary
- ◆ *Building Solidarity Potluck*, Monday, 19 Nov, 6 PM, Parish Hall

Where every mind is free and every soul is welcome!

Editorial: In The Name of Rev Joe

By Rebecca Doggett & Gregory Giacobbe

Sunday, 30 September 2018, has turned out to be a day to celebrate the Faith plus Works of a retired minister activist who made a difference to hundreds of young people in Orange. Now deceased, Rev Joseph J. Thomasbeger is remembered for his faith plus works. Rev Joe was the minister of North Orange Baptist Church in 1967 when families in his neighborhood began to lose their homes and recreational centers with the construction of Route 280.

The highway took Friendship House, as well as the racially segregated YMCA and YWCA. So Rev Joe formed a partnership with the YMCA Operation Aspiration headed by Bob Slater and started The Outpost at North Orange Church. The program offered recreation, family services and college guidance to families. This work was possible because many members of North Orange became volunteers in the program. In partnership with Rev Richard Schoolmaster of Grace Episcopal Church, Rev Joe became a strong advocate for the expansion of early childhood services. Back in the 1970's, Rev Joe also worked with the clergy of First UU on community issues in Orange.

Rev Joe retired from church based ministry in early 1980, but continued his urban ministry as an early childhood advocate in Newark and throughout the state. Joe's reconnection to First UU began in the last few years when, as a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair, he enthusiastically supported the

joint conversations about partnering and the creating of a new urban ministry program. Although parts of that initial vision have fallen away, the urban ministry concept became the HUUB. And, until his death in December of last year, Joe actively supported the HUUB's presence and work.

Now his friends, family and community would like to honor Joe with two special ceremonies. We invite you to join the HUUB in naming its fellows program The Joe

Thomasberger Community Fellows Program. The naming ceremony will take place as the Faith plus Works service on Sunday, 30 September at 5pm at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Essex, 35 Cleveland Street, Orange, NJ. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for further details.

In addition, at 3:30 PM that same afternoon, the Orange Municipal Council will conduct a memorial naming of Hickory Street after Joe. The site of the naming will be the former site of the North Orange Baptist Church at Hickory and South Main Street. Please see

page 3 for further details.

Joe was an extraordinary man who touched and transformed many lives with both his faith and works, in God, in his fellow human, and in the ways we can bring out the best in each other. Let us honor both the man and the spirit of Rev Joe for his lasting faith plus works. Please join us for both events, in the name of Rev Joe!



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.

30 Sep Naming Of The Joe Thomasberger Community Fellows Program Becky Doggett Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Usher - Gregory Giacobe, Social Hour Host - TBA

The HUUB at the First UU of Essex has initiated a vibrant program that encourages young people to make a difference in Orange. This program will be named to honor the urban ministry work of the late Rev. Joseph J Thomasberger. Becky Doggett, Joe's life partner and activist partner, will start the conversation about Joe and his work. She would also like those attending to add their experiences.

On the same day, the City of Orange Township Council will honor Rev. Thomasberger by renaming the street corner of Hickory St. and South Main St., the former North Orange Baptist Church. Please see the article on p. 3 for details.

Becky Doggett is a member of the UU Congregation at Montclair, and member of the HUUB's Board of Directors.

21 Oct TBA Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Usher - Gregory Giacobe, Social Hour Host - TBA

18 Nov TBA Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Usher - Gregory Giacobe, Social Hour Host - TBA

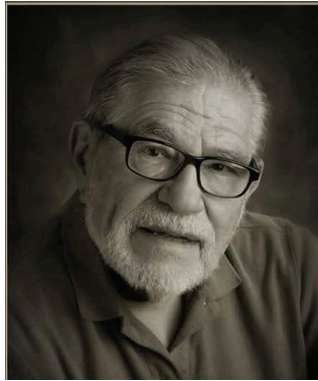
16 Dec TBA Leader - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Usher - Gregory Giacobe, Social Hour Host - TBA



HONORARY STREET NAMING
In Honor of Joseph J Thomasberger

Location: Corner of Hickory and S Main Sts, Orange, NJ
Date & Time: Sunday, 30 September 2016, 3:30 PM

Please join members of the Orange City Council, friends, family and community members at the former site of the North Orange Baptist Church to honor Rev. Joseph Thomasberger for his life of service to the community of Orange. Known as the Friendship House, this site is where hundreds of young neighborhood residents found recreation, family support and fellowship. Joe served North Orange Baptist for several years before leading it into a merger which became Church at the Crossroads in East Orange. A celebration of Rev Joe's life and naming of the HUUB's Fellows Program in Joe's honor, will continue at the First UU Church of Essex County at 35 Cleveland St. in Orange, beginning at 5 PM.



Love Collective concert III
 orange nj
 the huub
 9/22 4pm



Love Collective is a group of composers and musicians based in NY and NJ. We all come from different countries and musical backgrounds but share a commitment to programming and performing music rarely heard in NYC that creates intimate spaces for shared listening experiences, exchanges of ideas, and community building. On 22 September we'll perform the following program in Orange NJ:

- Larry Polansky- 17 squared chords
- Margaux Simmons - new piece
- Assaf Gidron - new piece
- Douglas Farrand - some chords
- Evelyn Emile- Seasons and Days
- Evelyn Emile - film
- Teodora Stepancic - Line 3

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. We have updates below:

- Upcoming birthdays include members DOUG FARRAND on 3 October, Board President Mindy Fullilove on 15 October, and to our former minister, REV. DARRELL BERGER on 19 October.
- Belated birthday wishes to our former minister REV. YIELBONZIE CHARLES JOHNSON who celebrated his 66TH on 26 August.

Newsletter Schedule & Submission Deadlines

The First UU Newsletter is now on a quarterly schedule. 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
Autumn	23 September	—
Winter	1 December	23 November
Spring	1 March	23 February
Summer	1 June	23 May



September 2017

- 24 Solidarity Potluck, Parish Hall, 6 PM
- 30 FAITH+WORKS: *Jos. Thomasberger Fellows Naming*, Rebecca Doggett, Sanctuary, 5 PM

October 2017

- 11 Board of Trustees, via Zoom channel, 7:30 PM
- 21 FAITH+WORKS: Title & Speaker TBA, Sanctuary, 5 PM
- 22 Solidarity Potluck, Parish Hall, 6 PM

November 2017

- 18 FAITH+WORKS: Title & Speaker TBA, Sanctuary, 5 PM
- 19 Solidarity Potluck, Parish Hall, 6 PM



Do you have a
GREAT IDEA
for the neighborhood?

Apply for a grant of up to \$500
More information at handsinc.org/micro-grants/

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 15



Supporting
Community
Initiatives in the
Heart of Orange and
Valley Arts District.

2018 Solidary Potlucks at the HUUB

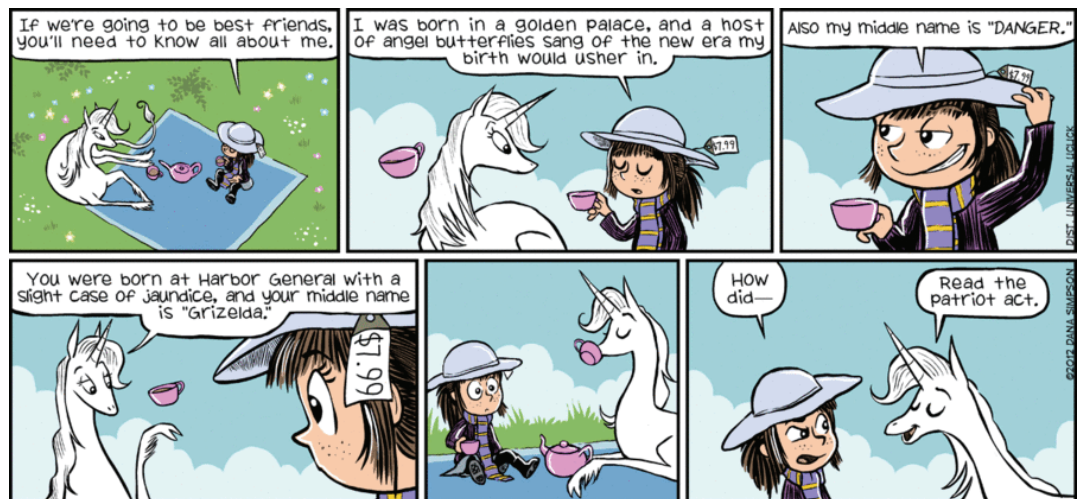
Join us once a month for our Monday Potlucks. We always have good food, fun activities, and a great crowd. Bring a dish!



Mondays 6pm at 35 Cleveland St. Orange, NJ 07050
The HUUB & First UU of Essex County

Phoebe & Her Unicorn

By
Dana Simpson





The Spark

The Newsletter of
the Chalice Lighter
Growth Committee

Summer 2018

Ready to Spring Into Action!

Four UU Churches Receive Chalice Lighter Grants



Above, the Southwest UU Church in Ohio will renovate its steeple, preserving a welcoming, visible beacon of faith.

Below, UUs of Germantown, PA, will make their church even more welcoming by installing a multi-level elevator.



2018 has been a bumper crop year for Chalice Lighters Grants: to date, the Grant Committee has awarded funds to enable four UU churches in the Central East Region (CER) to grow and thrive. The four grants – totaling \$100,000 – will support major projects at these congregations throughout the region:

At the **UU Church of Hamburg, NY**, a new wheel chair ramp and indoor lift will increase the church's accessibility—creating a welcoming, full-service congregation for all, not just the able-bodied.

The **Unitarian Society of Germantown** in Philadelphia, established in 1865, will install an elevator, making all three floors accessible. "Meeting the needs of those with disabilities is an important moral as well as legal imperative," members say.

In Ohio, the **SouthWest UU Church in N. Royalton** is literally a beacon on a hill—sitting at the highest point in town and topped with a landmark steeple. With its grant, the congregation will be able to renovate its worn steeple for safety and preservation.

At the **Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, PA**, a new grant will enable the church to expand outreach through its Chalice Center by renovating its downtown Market Street campus, further serving the surrounding multicultural, low-income neighborhood.

It Takes a Village (of Chalice Lighters) to Grow Our Faith



Is your congregation helping to light the way for other UU congregations in our region to grow and thrive? Supporting the Chalice Lighters program helps other congregations to realize their dreams and grows our collective faith. Please encourage members of your congregation to enroll in Chalice Lighters, so that more congregations can get the help they need to grow. It's easy to sign up online. **Check out our website at www.uua.org/centraleast/programs/chalicelighter or contact Andrea Lerner, Regional Chalice Lighter Liaison (chalicelighters@cerguua.org) or 302-778-4564.**



UU FaithAction NJ



SAVE THE DATE!

**2018 FALL
ISSUES
CONFERENCE**

October 20, 2018

10 am - 4 pm

Beacon Congregation, Summit NJ

REGISTRATION

COMING SOON!

planned
parenthood metropolitan
COUNTY

SAVE THE DATE

PEOPLE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Celebrating
90
Years



Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan New Jersey

OCT 24, 2018

6:30 PM

THE WILSHIRE GRAND
350 PLEASANT VALLEY WAY
WEST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY 07052

We Accept
Medicaid

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 & Fridays,
9 AM—3 PM

Church Phone: 973-674-0010

Office Email: office@essexuu.org

Web: essexuu.org

President: Mindy Thompson Fullilove

Vice President: Frank Barszcz

Treasurer: Bill Slezak

Secretary: Greg Giacobe

**Administrator & Newsletter Editor:
Greg Giacobe**

Sexton: Tony A Jones

HUUB Director: Charlie Wirene



WE VALUE: Community... Exploration... Fellowship... Spirituality... Liberal Religious Education... Diversity... Freedom... and Action.

OUR VISION: To be a life-affirming liberal religious community where people of diverse beliefs, 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 Essex County, the congregation has worshipped in the present Sanctuary since its construction in 1892-3. The Church continues the ministry of the Union Universalist 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

PO Box 998.

Orange NJ 07051-0998

Making the connections

