

THE AMHERST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST NEWSLETTER

121 North Pleasant Street, P.O. Box 502, Amherst Massachusetts 01004

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Important Information

STREET ADDRESS: 121 North Pleasant Street,
Amherst, MA 01002

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 502, Amherst, MA
01004-0502

INTERIM MINISTER:

The Rev. Cynthia Frado

413-253-2848 (office) or 508-320-5771 (cell) or
therevfrado@aol.com Contact her for an appointment.

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR:

Judy Mitrolka

413-253-2848 (office) or office@uusocietyamherst.org
Office hours: Monday through Friday, 10:A.M.-2:00 P.M.

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Rebecca Fricke 413-687-8722 or rebfricke@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Brenda Miller

413-253-7855 or bmmiller.music@gmail.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

President: Bo Mack 413-253-3530
rmack@umass.edu

Vice President: Karen Fisk 413-210-0960
karenmargaretfisk@gmail.com

Clerk: Lynne Latham 508-308-5877
latham.lynne.m@gmail.com

Treasurer: Elliott Kelly 413-559-9937
spahrkellys@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER

Copy Editor: Janis Gray, 413-259-1584

Production Editor: John Foster, 413-253-2632

Deadline for submissions: 15th of each month.

Please sign submissions, so we may reach you if we have questions. Submit entries one of two ways:

1. Email it to jsgray@crocker.com.
2. Mail it to 219 Wendell Road, Shutesbury MA 01072.

Please limit entries to 500 words (100 for the "For Your Information" section). Submissions may be edited to save space or to maintain a consistent style. Thank you!

Printed on recycled paper



Schedule of Services

Sunday, April 1, 10:30 A.M. – *Hidden in Plain Sight: Resurrecting the Human Jesus*

The Reverend Cynthia A. Frado preaching

Reading between the lines, who was Jesus of Nazareth? What inspired his ministry, and what did he see that others failed to notice? How did he walk his talk? On this Easter Sunday, as Christians around the world celebrate his divinity and resurrection from the dead to join the three-in-one Godhead, join us as we consider resurrecting the message of his life and how it can inspire our own.

Sunday, April 8, 10:30 A.M. – *Youth Group Sunday*

Today our youth service will focus on the many meanings and feelings associated with “change.” One service can change you. Will this be the one? This is a whole-congregation service. Babies, toddlers and preschoolers will start upstairs with Augusta and Jacy and be sung downstairs after the preschool sings a song. Please come and support our young adults.

Sunday, April 15, 10:30 A.M. – *Our UU Tapestry of Faith: The Middle Path of Buddhism*

The Reverend Cynthia A. Frado preaching

This is the last in our series on the UU theological arc of belief. In many ways, Buddhism reflects several aspects of all the other threads in our tapestry. It calls upon us to focus more deeply and thoughtfully on every moment, every breath. Join us as we embrace the return of spring and embark on new paths of enlightenment.

Today is our Dedicated Offering Sunday

Sunday, April 22, 10:30 A.M. – *Who Has the Whole World in Their Hands Now?*

The Reverend Kitsy Winthrop

The Green Sanctuary Committee’s guest speaker this morning is a retired UU minister who was born into a Unitarian (now Unitarian Universalist) family and congregation in Cambridge, MA. On Star Island she experienced a “real live” call to UU parish ministry at age 39. Her years of ministry have taken her to Rochester and Syracuse, NY, and to Springfield, VT, where she spent 12 years with a congregation that “loaned” her to Pocatello, ID for six weeks. Then on to Portland, ME — a dream since childhood — where she lives right beside Casco Bay. From there she served eight congregations in ME, Canada and NH. A mother, and an activist (since age 9), she is now, most of all, a “deep ecologist” who is deeply in love with this Earth.

Sunday, April 29, 10:30 A.M. – *Speaker and title to be announced*

Today is scheduled to be the first Sunday of Candidating Week. Stay tuned for news from our Search Committee about the minister who will be in our pulpit this morning!

Many sermons and readings are posted on our website, www.uusocietyamherst.org. Click on the “SERMON ARCHIVE” button on the right side of the home page, and then on the title of the sermon you wish to read.

An Offering from the Interim Minister’s Inkwell

As I am writing this reflection, it is extraordinarily cold outside even though the sun is shining. I’m hearing the first sounds of geese returning north. There have been a few more brave songbirds searching for materials to start building their nests; and the skunks have emerged from their winter slumber and have been spraying like crazy to attract new mates. All are harbingers of spring which is supposed to be right around the corner. Then I turn on the weather channel and they are predicting yet another snowstorm for New England. The anticipation of warmth and flowers and budding trees is overwhelming me! It seems that the closer we get to spring, the more impatient I have become. When, when, when?

On a similar vein, the Search Committee has been working incredibly hard since last summer. They’ve completed their final interviews and will be making an offer to someone on March 29th. There is GREAT anticipation about who they will choose. Who, who, who?

I think it is inherent in human nature to get impatient while waiting for something the closer it gets...whether it be a happy or sad occurrence. Sometimes it is both and the same! What I learned during my pregnancies is that most of life happens on its own terms, in its own time. Some things simply cannot be forced or denied. Hence, the lesson in all of this is patience, patience, patience.

By the time you get this our Passover Seder will be upon us, Easter will be blooming with lilies and daffodils two days later, and we will be in the midst of a very busy and promising spring! May all sorts of wonderment abound, and may the beauty and hope and joy of the season bring forth all sorts of goodness in your own life. There is much to celebrate, even in the midst of our personal struggles. Not the least of which is the warmth and welcome of this amazing UUSA community!

Blessings and peace be with each of you...

Rev. Cindy

Dedicated Offerings

Dedicated Offerings provide a way for our Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst community to recognize and financially support worthy organizations engaged in projects that reflect our guiding Unitarian-Universalist principles.

On one Sunday every month (except for June, July, and August) we schedule a Dedicated Offering (DO), recognizing that our Society needs our support on the other Sundays of the month. Dedicated Offerings are suggested by both individuals and committees of the Society, and the program is managed by the Minister and the Dedicated Offering Committee. Our goal is to cover a wide range of areas of need in our area and in the larger world, including these categories: local, regional, national, international, environmental, medical, educational, animal rights, arts/music/culture, and different ages and genders. Recipients for FY18 have been chosen. Forms for suggesting recipients for next year are available in the Meetinghouse office.

Thank you for showing your support for the Dedicated Offering program, not only with your contributions to the DO recipients themselves, but also with your contributions to the Society on other Sundays when our budget counts on those receipts. Remember that no one is required to contribute to our Dedicated Offering recipients – this is a voluntary initiative.

The March Dedicated Offering raised \$811.25 for **Voices from the Inside.**

The Dedicated Offering on April 15 will be for **Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services.**

Community Centered. Spirit Inspired.

This month's dedicated offering will support Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services. It is located in the Mason Square neighborhood of Springfield, an area with the highest poverty rate in the city and mostly serving people of color – African Americans, Latinos, and immigrants from many nations. The Center provides essential services to the neighborhood including after-school programs at two locations, a food pantry serving 475 families each week, mental health and homeless services, a gym offering safe haven for youth, and many unique programs.

MLKCC began in 1977 as a Community Fellowship House providing outreach and community ministry. The Center works with African American & Latino youth and families offering them opportunities to acquire self-help and self-empowerment skills. Community Leadership is a hallmark as the Center recognizes the many "Extraordinary People with Extraordinary Talents" within its community. Its celebration of King Day at the MassMutual Center is well known, bringing over 200 children on stage as well as many of the Springfield politicians. Its Social Justice Awards Ceremony, this year on April 14, honors people who have contributed to improving Springfield's diverse and vibrant culture.

Ronn Johnson, its President, should be with us on April 15. He will also talk about some of the organization's other programs, such as the Black College tour and the Clemente Program, a college program aimed at making it convenient for neighborhood people to begin college at a convenient location. Your generosity of support for this agency will be much appreciated.

Thanks from Amherst Community Connections and CoolCap, recent Dedicated Offering recipients

Dear Friends of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst,

Warm greetings to you! Amherst Community Connections (ACC) would like to humbly thank the Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst (UUSA) for your generous dedicated offering. We are so incredibly grateful to have been the recipient of this gift, and we look forward to seeing all the many ways it will benefit our participants.

Because ACC relies extensively on a network of interns and community volunteers in our support service and research operations, 80% of the energy-intensive, one-on-one attention we are able to provide our participants is done by our dedicated volunteers. This also means that every dollar you donated [\$1001 from UUSA — Ed.] is magnified five times, providing \$5000 worth of service that will be used to most productively benefit people with the least expenditures.

The nearly 700 families we served and over 3,700 visits they made in 2017 to our One Stop Resource Center for social service, and for financial assistance, are made possible by donations like yours!

Thank you again for your generosity and we look forward to your continued support.

Please feel free to stop by our office any time during the week. We would be happy to show you around the agency and introduce you to our community and workers.

Sincerely yours,

Hwei-Ling Greeney
Founder & Executive Director

P.S. With all the blessings you gave to ACC and the participants it served for the three years we were at UUSA, we are happy to report “Joy,” who has been homeless since 1980s, moved to her apartment in Amherst yesterday! UUSA — you ROCK! We are grateful!

Dear UUSA community,

Thank you for your kind and generous support – You are awesome! Your dedicated offering on February 11, 2018, in support of CoolCap, meant so much to my team and me! You collectively made a huge difference in the world today!

I left the US for Kenya after speaking briefly at the meetinghouse and was so energized by the conversations I had with so many of you. Your questions were intuitive and perceptive, and you were curious about the impact we are having. It filled my heart to speak to such a compassionate and interested group.

There is something about the UU principle on the inherent dignity and worth of all human beings that speaks very deeply to me and I am in gratitude for all the love and care that you send out into our world.

It’s hard to fully appreciate the struggles these farmers endure until you see their dedication every day working from dawn to dusk: backbreaking labor that takes much longer than necessary because financing is not available to purchase the equipment they need.

It is incredible to me how they persevere through droughts, floods, pests, and governmental upheaval, and remain honest, hard-working, good spirited, and hopeful.

Your dedicated offering supports the empowerment of these Kenyan farm families to a life of greater prosperity, with pride of accomplishment and more food security for their communities.

As farmers repay their loans, CoolCap invests in their neighbors, and their neighbors’ neighbors. That’s why your generosity means so much to smallholder farmers — and to me personally.

If you are interested in keeping up to date with us, you can sign up for our newsletter on our website: CoolCap-Fund.org (you’d get an email every month or so), and if you are on Facebook, we are too! Search “CoolCap Fund” and like us — this helps expand our network – you’ll notice our posts show how donations are being put to good use!

With an abundance of gratitude,

Thank you!

Roger Bird
Founder/CE

Ministerial Search Committee

An Update from the Ministerial Search Committee, written March 15.

By the time you read this, the Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) will have met 51 times over the course of the past nine months. This included four full weekends in intensive interviews and relaxed conversations getting to know each of our final four candidates. We've put miles on our cars, enjoyed seeing other congregation's Sunday morning offerings, observed our pre-candidates deliver sermons and children's stories, shared many meals, and laughed a lot. It's been a very rewarding process.

The last half of March is a time of discernment for the MSC to determine which of these four wonderful people will be the best match for the UUSA now and in the future. Each of the pre-candidates brings different strengths, and each would provide us with a different style of ministry.

A number of you have asked us why can't we bring in all four pre-candidates on successive weekends and have the congregation vote? Decades ago this practice was not uncommon. However, it is no longer done in UU congregations because it can lead to conflict and division. Some congregants would prefer pre-candidate A, others would prefer pre-candidate B and so on. As a result, no one candidate would receive the overwhelming vote of confidence needed for a successful ministry, and the congregation would be divided – not an optimal beginning for a new minister. And finally, few pre-candidates would agree to participate in such a process.

So, at the end of a long process of interviewing, evaluation, reference-checking, and consensus-building, the search committee will present you with one candidate who is, in our opinion, best for our congregation.

On Thursday, March 29 at noon, we will be calling our first-choice candidate. Assuming we have a match, we will then invite that minister to be our official pre-candidate. Once the minister accepts our offer, and after we have completed background checks and have a signed contract in hand, we will announce the candidate's identity. probably sometime in early to mid-April.

During "Candidating Week" (tentative dates are April 29 to May 6), the candidate will spend nine days with us. The week will include two Sunday services and, with your help and participation, will include a range of different activities with the aim of giving everyone abundant opportunities to get to know our candidate. Immediately following the second sermon, the entire congregation will then vote on the candidate. If the congregation votes to approve the minister by a margin of 90%, and the minister accepts, the new minister will likely move to our area in early August, and officially start this Fall.

This vote is critically important to the UUSA, as it will set us on a new course as a UU community. Watch for a special mailing in the coming weeks introducing the candidate and with details about Candidating Week.

We are excitedly looking forward to the next phase in the life of this congregation, and honored and humbled to be a part of helping to choose the person who will lead us as we move into the future.

Ministerial Search Committee: Carolyn Cave, Chair; Jenn Chylack; Lisa Cyr; Mary Herman; Anne Perkins, Steve Rice

Religious Education Ministry



Preschool - With **Jacy's** help the preschoolers will continue to investigate the UU principles through hands-on activities and discussions about taking care of babies.

Elementary - We have a small, but steady, group of children who have been working with **Lesley** on meditative practices and with me on the theme "Love is All Around Us."

Neighboring Faiths - In March the middle school youth finished their faith visits and they will begin the process of reflection and preparation for their May service.

High School - In April the youth will be leading a whole-congregation worship service and in the meantime, some youth will be volunteering at Not Bread Alone.

Bridging - High school senior youth are invited to work me on their bridging ceremony coming up in May or June.

Finally, I would like to extend an invitation to anyone who might like to volunteer with the children downstairs during the spring or in the summer. Come and share your talents, or if you would prefer, accompany me in a planned lesson.

Thank yoUU,

Rebecca Fricke,

Director of Religious Education

Universalism, 1600-1860

The six-part documentary series from the UUA, *Long Strange Trip*, continues on April 22 with Part 4, "Universalism." Come join us at noon downstairs in Classroom A for a viewing and refreshments.

Early Universalism has roots in Christian mysticism, which lifts up the universal and abundant love of God for God's creation. Universalists were often asked, "Without belief in punishment after death, what compels someone to live a moral life?"

You'll also learn why the way Universalism arrived on our shores is sometimes called the "UU Miracle" (no spoilers here!). After the video, you are welcome to stay, if you can, for a discussion of these questions and



Social Events

The April UUSA Social Supper will be held at the home of **Carolyn Holstein** on Saturday, April 21, at 6:00 P.M. at 17 Hadley Place, in Hadley. Since this is a "Pot Luck" affair, please call Carolyn at 413-387-0141 to ask what you can bring: appetizer, main dish, salad, or dessert. Coffee and tea will be provided. Although it's by no means a requirement, consider using one local ingredient in whatever dish you prepare. And if you bring a dish containing shellfish, please label your dish, as we have some folks with severe allergies to shellfish.

Directions to Carolyn's home: Drive down the hill from the Center of Amherst on Amity Street. Cross over University Drive at the set of lights and you are now on Rocky Hill Road.. Continue on Rocky Hill Road through another set of lights at the top of a hill, until you reach the juncture of Rocky Hill Road and Route 47. Turn left onto Route 47, go past the one-story Elementary School on the left, and then take another left onto the first street past the school, which is Hadley Place. Carolyn's house is on the right, #17, a white ranch with a brown garage. A ramp from the driveway to the side entrance accommodates those who may find it useful.

The Men's Breakfast Group meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 A.M. at Kelly's Restaurant (314 College Street, Amherst). Contact **Michael Sussman** at msussma@music.umass.edu for details.

The Women's Lunch Group meets every other Thursday for conversation and local, inexpensive cuisine. The next luncheon is April 5 at Top Kabab, Taste of Persian, 31 Boltwood Walk, Amherst. We welcome every woman, whether new to our Society or a longer-time member or friend. It is not necessary to RSVP, but if you want to be on the e-notification list, contact **Sophie Rogers** at 413-772-9814 or sophiesailing@gmail.com.

Membership

Getting to Know UU Are you new to us and curious about who we are? Come join us downstairs in the Conference Room on Sunday, April 8 at noon for light refreshments and a brief introduction to Unitarian Universalism and the UU Society of Amherst. Bring your questions! What are you looking for — and what might we have to offer?

Eleven individuals signed the UUSA Membership Book in March! They are **Beryl Singer** of Amherst; **Kate Rice** of Leverett; **David and Laura Driver** of Amherst; **Amy Kalman** of Amherst; **Joanne Rella** of Amherst; **Sue A. Alexander** of Leverett; **Alyson Bull** and **Annie Sexauer** of South Deerfield; and **Susan and Ryan Wells** of Amherst.

Our Caring Ministries



"Houstonias (Bluets)! How offering that, annually at this season, as surely as the sun takes a higher course in the heavens, this pure and simple little flower peeps out and spots the greater globe with white...its four little white-bluish petals on a slender stalk making a delicate flower, about a third of an inch in diameter! What a significant, though faint, utterance of spring through the reins of this living Earth!...where the most beautiful wild flowers grow, there our spirit is fed, and poets grow."

from Henry David Thoreau, *Journal*

Our **Caring Circle** coordinators are **Catharine Porter** and **Clare Bertrand**. Please contact one of them or your own Caring Person for rides, food, and simple needs. Caring Circle members are **Linda Callahan, Carolyn Cave, Sue Kelly, Karen Mack, Martha Nelson, Susan Rice, Chas Stevenson, Lynn Sussman** and **Gordon Wyse**.

Our **Pastoral Care Team** coordinators are **Pete Rogers** and **Mary Wyse**. Other members are **The Reverend Elizabeth Alcaide, Charlie Atwood, The Reverend Cindy Frado, Rob Fuderich, Bo Mack, Fran Plumer,** and **Libby Walton-Stanforth**. Please contact one of them for your more complex or personal needs.

Sending joyful thoughts to **Charlie and Judy Atwood** after Charlie's successful surgery, and ongoing deep wishes to **John and Susan Barbaro, Vicki Hinson-Smith, Millis Mershon, Lynn Sussman** and her family, **Jan and Jay Stryker, Fran Plumer** and family, **Casey Attebery, Warren LaRoche,** and **John and Cindy McLean**.



Above are but some of the many members of UUSA who took part in Marching for Our Lives events across our region on March 24. These UUs joined the Amherst Community March.

UUSA COMMUNITY BREAKFAST NEEDS YOU!

The UUSA has been providing volunteers for the free Community Breakfast in the Willie Eaton Social Hall every Wednesday for three years. We serve 80-120 guests a freshly cooked hot meal of eggs, home fries, sausages, pastries, cereal, toast, juice and coffee or tea – all provided by Amherst's Craig's Doors. Our breakfast is important as the Amherst Survival Center, which is open other days, is closed on Wednesday.

Our breakfast team works closely with Craig's Doors, which helps people find ways to become empowered and improve the quality of their lives through the creation of safe, respectful shelter and housing. We regularly experience a shortage of volunteers both in the summer and the church year. Dishwashers and cleanup crew are especially difficult positions to fill, but many other jobs are also available. Contact **Clare Bertrand** at clarebertrand@gmail.com. She will send you a weekly email reminder with a link where you can see what positions are available for each week. For questions or more information contact Clare, or **Sophie Rogers**.

Social Action



Interfaith Sanctuary and Solidarity Network The week of **April 9** it is UUSA's turn to provide suppers for Lucio Perez and his family at 6:00 P.M. at First Congregational Church in Amherst. On Monday, April 9, and Thursday, April 12, two people are needed each night to provide food for Lucio, his wife and three of his children ages 8, 13 & 15. On Tuesday, April 10 and Friday, April 13, one person each night is needed to provide food for only Lucio. For all nights, enough food for Lucio's lunch the next day as well as an extra meal for the "church" person should be cooked. If you are asked to join them, you can, but make sure you've prepared enough food. Lucio remains in sanctuary at First Church with no hearing date set for his appeal of ICE's deportation order. (See related information on page 8!) If you can help, or for information, contact **Mary Beth Seminario**, mbsem@comcast.net 413-253-0894.

LETTERS FOR LUCIO!

BACKGROUND

Lucio Perez, facing imminent deportation to Guatemala, entered sanctuary at First Church UCC Amherst on October 18, 2017 to keep his family together while his immigration case is decided. He is a father of four and a leader in his church and community, who has lived and worked in the US for 19 years. **His family and community need him home!**

HOW TO HELP

Lucio's application for a Stay of Deportation and his Motion to Reopen will be decided soon. Now is the time to show widespread community support. Help us send ICE **1,000 letters by April 9!**

WHAT SHOULD MY LETTER LOOK LIKE?

- Please address the letter "**Dear Immigration Officials.**" Letters will be sent to both Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Bureau of Immigration Appeals.
- Include **a copy of photo identification** directly on the letter or attached as a second page. (If you are not able to submit your identification, your letter is still needed! Please write your address and phone number on the letter instead.)
- Include up to **3 things you appreciate about Lucio** (e.g. great father, dedicated to his community, hard working). If you don't know him personally, please write a letter about his impact on and place in your greater community.
- Include "**Please approve the Stay of Removal and Motion to Reopen his case.**"
- Handwritten is welcome as long as it's legible.
- See back for sample letters.

SEND IN YOUR LETTER

- By email at [**lettersforlucio@gmail.com**](mailto:lettersforlucio@gmail.com)
- By mail to the address below
- In person on Wednesday or Thursday mornings (10am-12pm) at the **Pioneer Valley Worker's Center**

GO ABOVE AND BEYOND!

Collect 20 letters from your friends and neighbors! One idea - bring a home copy machine to a community event. Copy friends' IDs onto each paper, and ask them to write their letter around the image. Then scan them to us or bring them to the office!

ADDRESS:

Pioneer Valley Worker's Center
20 Hampton Ave. #200
Northampton, MA 01060



CONTACT:

Margaret Sawyer, PVWC Organizer
[**margaret@pvworkerscenter.org**](mailto:margaret@pvworkerscenter.org)
Please email with any questions

*If you have already submitted a letter for Lucio, thank you! No need to write another. Sample letters on back. For more information on Lucio's case, go to <http://www.gazettenet.com/lucio-perez-sanctuary-13474030>

Just One Thing On April 8, the second Sunday of the month, a basket is placed in the foyer for food/items for the Amherst Survival Center. Two weeks before that date, descriptions of the specific food needed will be placed in the weekly announcements. As our cold/snowy days linger, all of our bodies need more food. At the Survival Center that is especially true. Thank you for your continuing support of community people in need. For information contact **Mary Beth Seminario**, [**mbsem@comcast.net**](mailto:mbsem@comcast.net), 413-253-0894.

Western Mass. Living Wage Campaign launch April 17 7:00 P.M. at UUSA sponsored by the Social Action Com. Guest speaker is UMass assistant research professor Jeanette Wicks-Lim, who has done extensive research on living wages and low wages. Additional information & speakers about Amherst living wages and campaign including Kitty Callaghan, Esq. Free. Refreshments provided.

Join Fellow UUSA Members at This Year's

Noho Pride March

Saturday May 5th

11:00-5:30

Marchers gather at the parking lot behind the Northampton Brewery with the

March stepping off at 11:00

and proceeding to the Northampton Fairgrounds for a rally with speakers, entertainment and vendors from 11:00-5:30.

Celebrating the vibrant LGBTQ community in the Valley and beyond.

Let's meet at 10:45 at La Florentina Bakery (behind Thornes Market)

Noho Pride's annual Parade and Pride Day celebrates the spirit and strength of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBTQ) communities in Western Massachusetts.

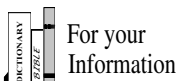
This is a rain or shine event

Questions? Contact Laurencrocel@gmail.com

Green Sanctuary

Look for the Green Sanctuary Committee's Action Table in the Social Hall on the second Sunday of every month. We will provide information on an environmental issue and a way for members of the congregation to contact legislators or other key people. We want to make it easy for you to take action on critical issues. Please visit us!

The Green Sanctuary Committee will meet on Thursday, April 26, 7:00 P.M. at the home of Gordon and Mary Wyse, 219 Lincoln Ave., Amherst.



Restoring the Soul after War: A Memorial Day Retreat for People in Military Service, Veterans, and Those Who Love Them. May 25-28, 2018, led by UUSA's **Ed Tick** and **Kate Dahlstedt** of Soldier's Heart, and held at the UU Rowe Camp and Conference Center. Honoring the original meaning of Memorial Day, this is for all who wish to heal the effect of war on themselves, their families, and our nation.

All of us, especially our veterans and their families, feel the effect of war and need time, removed from life's pressures, to reflect and heal from our war wounds, losses, and concerns. Ed and Kate have worked with veterans and their families for nearly four decades. They invite you—whether you're a veteran, active-duty military service member, family member, helping professional, or other caring civilian—to join this Memorial Day intensive retreat. They'll introduce you to a pioneering method of healing, exploring the inner world of combat and the universal dimensions of warriorhood through storytelling, self- and family testimonies, history, mythology, cross-cultural ceremonies, and more. You'll practice guiding warriors and civilians on the journey to restoring wholeness, working together to help rebuild identities, shrink trauma, and bring meaning to tragedy.

Scholarships are available to veterans.

For more information and to register, visit <http://rowecenter.org/wp/events/memorial-day-retreat/>

UUSA Gala Art Sale & Auction

Friday, June 8, 2018

4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

“Fine Art at Your Price”

Dear UUSA friends and members,

Given the abundance of art, art lovers, art collectors, and art appreciation in the Pioneer Valley, we are pleased to announce this year’s spring fundraiser will be a **Gala Art Sale & Auction**. Come join us for a lovely evening of good fellowship, fine art, tasty wine, delicious treats, and live music.

Over the course of the next two months, your UUSA Art Team – Fran Plumer, Susanne Personette, Anne Cohen, Susan Rice, and Anne Moore – will be collecting donated works of art of all types: painting, photography, sculpture, ceramic, and textile.

The art is already coming in from congregation members and local valley artists and we are delighted to already have a number of wonderful pieces in storage. Each donated work of art will be “gently juried” and sell for between \$25 and \$500. The last UUSA Art Sale cleared \$5,000 to support the good works of our Society – and our goal is to surpass that!

What can YOU do, you ask? Glad you asked! We want everyone to participate in this wonderful event in some way – so we’re creating plenty of opportunities to donate your time, talents, energy, laughter, and good spirits in the next two months.

- First, please ***mark your calendars now*** - then invite your friends, family, and neighbors to share in this gala evening of art and fellowship.
- Second, start thinking now about ***works of art that you might donate***.
- Finally, please ***keep your eyes and ears open*** for announcements, emails, newsletters, and orders of service bulletins for more details and information about how you can volunteer to help make this event a big success!!

Your UUSA Art Team:

- ~ Anne Cohen cohensinrockport@gmail.com
- ~ Anne Moore Annemouise@annemouise.com
- ~ Susanne Personette susannepersonette@gmail.com
- ~ Fran Plumer fplum@comcast.net
- ~ Susan Rice SCarewRice@gmail.com