Unitarian Universalist
CONGREGATION OF CENTRAL NASSAU



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

November 22, 2026 at 11:00 am

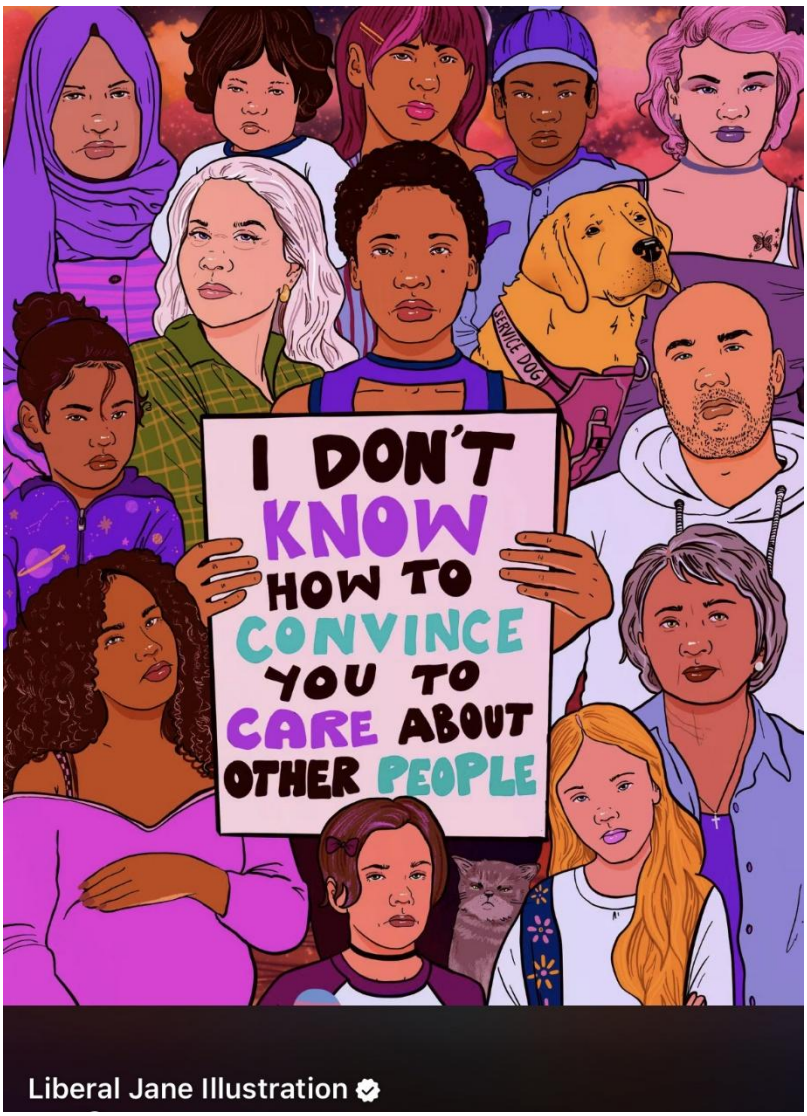
If you would like to join us virtually the link is down below:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6UHqS_OTHDrNw8hP1OAGnQ

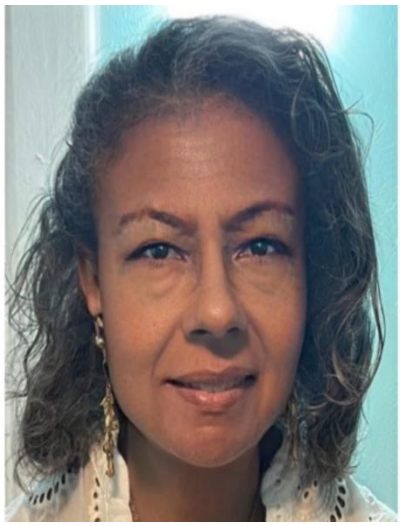
Service will be led by Rev. Petra Thombs

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

See other recent Worship Services on UUCCN's Facebook page.


I DON'T KNOW HOW TO CONVINCE YOU TO CARE ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE
SERVICE DOG
Liberal Jane Illustration

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Beloveds,
I wish you all safety in light of the recent outages that have affected our country's flights, banking and other infrastructure. It has been very challenging and we all want answers as to the causes along with solutions.
This Sunday I will be preaching about Thanksgiving and my thoughts on this national holiday. We will also have a presentation on Cyber Safety for Seniors (or those who need support). This will be presented by Bernie Thombs with opportunities for questions and discussion. I hope you will be able to join us!

Please join us for the Monday evening meetings to stay on top of issues affecting the community.
LIAPA UPDATE
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85205749096?pwd=VWL9IKFO0ayearK5keKEPxm3waZ3eb.1
Blessings in all things going forward,
Rev. Petra

MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS:
SPECIAL EVENT!

My office hours will be on Wednesday, December 2nd at 1pm.

SEE PDF Regarding Letter

Our UUCCN Board Members Welcome You!



Anita Coddington- Board Member, House and Grounds, Rentals



Gerri Forrai- Board Member, Stewardship Committee



Dr. Janice Marie Johnson- Board Member, Caring Committee and Outreach Committee



Georgie Collins- Board Member



Adam Marczyk Board Member, Secretary,

Indigenous Perspective on Thanksgiving

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

Since 1970, Native Americans have gathered at noon on Cole's Hill in Plymouth to commemorate a National Day or Mourning on the U.S. Thanksgiving holiday. Many Native Americans do not celebrate the arrival of the Pilgrims and other European settlers. To them, Thanksgiving Day is a reminder of the genocide of millions of their people, the theft of their lands, and the relentless assault on their cultures. Participants in National Day of Mourning honor Native ancestors and the struggles of Native peoples to survive today. It is a day of remembrance and spiritual connection as well as a protest of the racism and oppression which Native Americans continue to experience.

Erected by the Town of Plymouth
on behalf of the United American
Indians of New England



Massasoit, Great Sachem of Wampanoags, by Dallin, Plymouth, Mass." c. 1898-1931 (Detroit). The New York Public Library Digital Collections, The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs: Photography Collection

[LIAC] 🔁 This Thursday: Toko-pa Turner at The Open Circle!!



Hello again, Amazing UUs & UU Adjacents!

A quick reminder that *The Open Circle* meets this Thursday, when Rev. Sara Green talks with **Toko-pa Turner**, author of *Belonging: Remembering Ourselves Home*, about belonging as something we practice rather than something we wait to receive.

Thursday, November 19, 2026, 7:00 to 8:30 pm ET

Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82438610752

We'll open with a chalice lighting, then move into the conversation, and you're invited to share questions in the chat along the way. Cameras on if you're comfortable, no preparation needed, and friends and family are always welcome.

Hope to see you Thursday night!

Zach Young

P.S. Save the date for December 17, when Rev. Sara talks with Rev. Macky Alston.

--
Zachary (Zach) Young (he/him)
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Fourth Universalist Society in the City of New York

https://4thu.org/

"...darkness has a hunger that's insatiable; And lightness has a call that's hard to hear." *Amy Ray/Emily Saliers*

UUCCN ANNUAL EVENTS - SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, November 22, 2026 --- Cyber Security Presentation following the service

Thursday, December 24, 2026-- Choral Singing with Michael at 4pm

Thursday, December 24, 2026-- Christmas Eve Service at 5pm

Sunday, December 6, 2026 — Kwanza

Sunday, February 7, 2027 from 2-5pm at Frantz Hall- Film Screening: Saving Ferris Butler

Saturday, May 1, 2027 — Stewardship Dinner and Service Auction, 5–8 p.m.

Saturday, June 6, 2027 — Religious Education Sunday

Saturday, June 6, 2027 — Annual Meeting after service

Saturday, June 13, 2027 — Juneteenth

Saturday, June 20, 2027 — Father's Day; last day of regular service

Tuesday, June 23, 2027 — General Assembly

Saturday, June 27, 2027 — Summer Services begin

Doctors Without Borders concert

Our Music Director, Michael Sansonia, organized his talented musician friends to perform a wonderful show in support of Doctors Without Borders. They truly rocked the full house!

The concert was followed by a delicious buffet dinner lovingly prepared by the wonderful women of UUCCN.

Thank you to all who attended, donated, and brought their families and friends. And to those behind the scenes who organized, did the heavy lifting of setting up the event and putting everything away, we deeply appreciate everything you have done.

You help to keep our community going forward!





Pumpkin Patch 2026

We had a visit with Rev. David Olsen from Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock. Our congregation is collaborating with Shelter Rock to support each other and Unitarian Universalism on Long Island.



Thank You For All The Help With The 2026 Pumpkin Patch!

We want to acknowledge with gratitude the members and friends of UUCCN, who worked tirelessly to make this year's Pumpkin Patch a success for our congregation and the Navajo Nation with whom we partner.

This is our main fundraising event. It truly takes a village to accomplish the goal of sustaining our congregation.

We look forward to having you join us for Sunday services and other events in the near future!

Blessings to you all!

Share The Plate for November

Ramapough Mountain Indians, Inc. was created in 2009 by the tribal leaders as a nonprofit organization. The Ramapough Lenape Community Center has been a place for the Ramapough people to gather as well as other Indigenous relatives.

We offer programs for adults and youth focused on teaching and learning culture and traditions.

Rev. Petra Thombs has worked with the Ramapough Center for many years. Please give as generously as you can for November's Share the Plate recipient.

Please mail a check made out to UUCCN with "Share the Plate" written on the memo line or go online to: www.uuccn.org/donate**.**

Special Alert- Scammers

Dear Community,
Please be aware that scammers are sending out invitations and or requests for funds. If you receive something like this please delete it. If you are unsure, check with the person directly to confirm that it came from them. We need to take care of each other. Be safe out there!

Helpful Strategies for Dealing with Members of Hate Groups

Dear UUCCN,
I found this information from my friend and colleague, Rev. Kate Lore. Please take the time to read it and reflect on it as it is helpful for addressing the frustration many are experiencing.

How To Deal With Members of Hate Groups: (this is the 2nd of 2 posts on Hate Groups. The prior post deals with WHY people join Hate Groups).

1) PROTECT THOSE WHO ARE TARGETED. The first priority is always the safety of people threatened by hate. That means:

* Enforcing laws against violence, harassment, and intimidation.
* Protecting vulnerable communities.
* Challenging hate speech when it incites violence or dehumanizes others.
* Strengthening democratic institutions and the rule of law.

Compassion for individuals should never come at the expense of the safety of those they target.

2) SEPARATE THE PERSON FROM THE IDEOLOGY. Many people who have left hate groups say that what helped them change was encountering people who refused to reduce them to their worst beliefs while also refusing to excuse those beliefs.

This is different from tolerating hate. It means holding two ideas together:
* Every person has the capacity to change.
* Harmful beliefs and actions must be confronted.

3) DON'T EXPECT FACTS ALONE TO CHANGE MINDS. Research consistently shows that simply presenting more evidence rarely changes deeply held extremist beliefs.

People are more likely to change when:

* Someone they trust asks genuine questions.
* They experience contradictions between the movement's promises and reality.
* They develop meaningful relationships outside the group.

4) REDUCE ISOLATION. Former extremists often describe leaving as incredibly lonely.

Organizations that help people disengage from hate groups focus on helping them build:

* New friendships.
* Employment.
* Purpose.
* A sense of identity beyond the movement.

Without alternatives, people often return to the only community they know.

5) HOLD LEADERS ACCOUNTABLE. There is an important distinction between:

* Someone struggling to leave an extremist ideology.
* Someone recruiting others, organizing violence, or profiting from hate.

The latter requires accountability through legal and civic institutions.

WHAT PEOPLE WHO LEFT HATE GROUPS OFTEN SAY: Former members of extremist organizations frequently describe a similar pattern:

* They were welcomed before they were indoctrinated.
* They found identity and purpose.
* Over time, the ideology became more extreme.
* What finally broke through was often an unexpected act of kindness or a relationship that challenged their assumptions—not because kindness erased accountability, but because it made a different identity imaginable.

Please note: I know this work isn't for everybody. But as Dr. King once said, resisting injustice and loving the person committing it were not opposites. He believed people should resist systems of oppression vigorously while leaving open the possibility of personal transformation. I agree.

When Black Women Gather CAPITAL B: Federal court rules there is no constitutional right to safe drinking water

Federal court rules there is no constitutional right to safe drinking water

A federal appeals court has used a decades-long water crisis in one of the Blackest cities in America to rule that the U.S. Constitution does not guarantee Americans the right to clean and safe drinking water.

Read in Capital B: https://apple.news/AMXxa5732Rb-prcgLs-dS9A

Religious Education

RE Session Summary – November 15, 2026

This Sunday, we continued exploring November's Soul Matters theme of *Healing*, focusing on how kindness, compassion, and inclusion can help address the hurt caused by exclusion, bullying, and unfair treatment. Throughout the session, we connected these ideas to the Unitarian Universalist values of Love and Justice.

We began with our chalice lighting, then revisited the relationship between kindness and healing through a hands-on science experiment carried over from the previous week's lesson. Using an egg, water, and salt, we explored how changing the environment around something can change what happens to it. Although the experiment didn't go

quite as planned, the students still understood its central message: just as changing the water can help an egg float, creating a more supportive and inclusive environment can help lift people up when they're experiencing difficulties.

We then explored *The Parable of the Good Samaritan*, a wisdom tale from the Christian tradition. The story encouraged us to consider what it means to be a good neighbor, particularly when someone in need comes from a different background or community. We discussed how the Samaritan demonstrated compassion not simply through his feelings, but through his willingness to take meaningful action when others had passed by.

This led to an especially interesting and thought-provoking discussion about how we can best help people experiencing difficult circumstances, including unhoused individuals and families. Students considered what it means to offer meaningful assistance and how we might respond to others' needs with compassion, thoughtfulness, and respect. The conversation encouraged us to look beyond good intentions and consider what genuinely helpful action looks like.

We also explored the meaning of inclusion by featuring the colors of the transgender pride flag. This sparked a discussion about respecting differences, building communities where everyone feels they belong, and recognizing the harm exclusion and discrimination can cause. In connection with the upcoming Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20, we reflected on the importance of honoring lives lost to violence and hatred while working toward a world where everyone can experience safety, dignity, and respect.

We concluded by extinguishing our chalice and reminding everyone that inclusion is more than simply being friendly. It involves recognizing when others are being treated unfairly and choosing to respond with compassion, courage, and meaningful action.

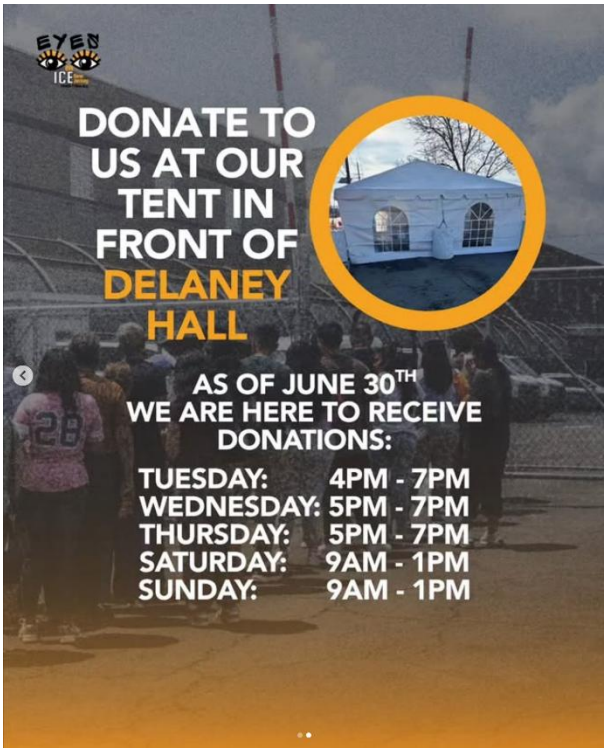
Overall, the session offered valuable opportunities for critical thinking and thoughtful conversation. I particularly appreciated the students' willingness to engage with complex questions about helping others and what it means to put UU values into practice.

Warmly,

Ashley

IIJA


EYES ICE
THINGS TO DONATE
THIS WEEKEND, VISITORS WILL WAIT OUTSIDE IN DANGEROUS TEMPERATURES ABOVE 100° F TO VISIT THEIR LOVED ONE AT DELANEY HALL. HELP US KEEP PEOPLE COOL BY DONATING THESE ITEMS!
• PEDIALYTE
• PACKETS OF LIQUID IV
• COOLING PACKS
• UMBRELLAS
• CAPRI-SUNS
• HONEST KIDS JUICE BOXES
• BATTERY RUN HAND-HELD FANS



LISTEN: New Performance by Shaina Taub for Immigrant NY - NYCLU

https://www.nyclu.org/resources/campaigns-actions/campaigns/huddled-masses

Does Anyone Have a Piano Lamp?

Michael Sansonia has requested a little bit more light over the piano. A piano lamp would be great!
Please contact Jessica or a Board Member with your donation.

STEWARDSHIP

Please send in your pledge form for the new congregational year.

We are all Stewards of UUCCN. Your pledges and gifts sustain our congregation! We look forward to hearing from you. Contact: **Gerri Forrai** at gerriforrai@gmail.com (516) 567-1066
Anita Coddington at anitagesky@aol.com (516) 581-2603

Once again, it is time for the Stewardship Committee to ask you to join us in supporting our congregation in the coming year. By renewing our financial commitment, we support our mission of making a difference here and in the world. This congregation belongs to each of us. It is our spiritual home and our beloved community.

Your pledge provides the salaries for our minister, religious education teacher, our musical director as well as the administrative assistant. It pays for the utilities, insurance, maintenance and the heating of our building, as well as any capital campaign improvements.

Please review your pledge form, fill it out promptly and return it. You can mail it,

bring it in on Sunday, drop it in the office, or pledge on our website (uuccn.org). Thank you for your support and participation in UUCCN. We couldn't do it without the help of every member and friend.

Donate / Pledge Payment

ARTICLE II AND OUR UU PRINCIPLES

Our congregation has responded to updating our affirmation with this responsive reading shared during our services:

- Love is at the heart of our values.
- *We promise to live our values everyday with love at the center of all things.*
- Equity is the value of our inclusive community.
- *We believe in the inherent worthiness of all.*
- Interdependence teaches us, we are all connected.
- *We will only be made whole when we live as co-inhabitants of the world.*
- Justice is essential for peace and building a Beloved Community.
- *We will work to dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and in our institutions.*
- Generosity expresses compassion, gratitude, and hope.
- *We will offer our faith, ourselves, and our resources.*
- Pluralism encourages respect for diverse beliefs.
- *And allows us to be curious, as we learn from one another.*
- Transformation allows us to adapt to an ever-changing world.
- We are evolving and growing; we are never perfect

Please read updated information regarding Article II.

UU HOUSING

Have you thought about moving? Why not think about living in the vibrant

community of Port Washington on Long Island! How about considering living at Hadley House, a 40 unit apartment building for Independent Seniors for UU members and their families? If you have any questions about the availability of units or how to apply they can be answered by the Social Worker in the building, Susan Bagnini, 516-944-8457. A descriptive brochure is available on request.

RENTERS NEEDED

UUCCN's excellent location makes it a great site for renters. We are looking for new organizations that would be a good partner for UUCCN. Please share this with any interested groups and contact Maria Sutton in the UUCCN office for more information at uuccn@aol.com or call (516) 248-8855.

CARING COMMITTEE

Janet McShea, Phyllis Ross, and Gerri Forrai are serving on UUCCN's new Caring Committee. They will be reaching out to members as we try to uplift and support one another. Let one of them know if you want to talk or need a hand.



RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE GREATER COMMUNITY

UUA - CENTRAL EAST REGION

News for November

NOW WHAT: The Gathering for Congregational Leaders

Join the "Side With Love" monthly event to strengthen your spirit, make sense of the threats to democracy, and take meaningful action alongside others.

INFORMATION

UU MINISTRY FOR EARTH (UUMFE)

Where there's a will...

This Opportunity Expires December 31!

Full Moon Gathering

November News

Call Congress TODAY: No on BAAJA

Urgent Action Opposing BAAJA

Recap: National Estate Planning Awareness Week

NO MORE DEATHS:
UPDATES FROM NORTHERN MEXICO PROJECTS

INFORMATION

FERRY BEACH DISCOVERY

Ferry Beach Retreat & Conference Information

JOIN THE UUCCN Private Facebook Group