



Our Outlook

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Sunday Services | December 2019

December 1 | *Advent: What Are We Waiting For?*

Isn't it hard to wait? The service will address waiting, anticipation, and expectation and the themes of hope, peace, joy, love, and faith. These four themes are all explored during the four week Christian season of Advent in preparation for Christmas. This season, which begins December 1, is a time for deep reflection on how God is working in and through our lives.

— Rev. Padraic Collins-Bohrer

December 8 | *What Wondrous Love Is This?*

At the heart of Universalism is a deep and abiding love, a universal love accessible to all. In light of this belief in universal love, how are we to live and to act? Let us explore how vast and far-reaching love can go.

— Rev. Lane Campbell

December 15 | *What Do Our Bodies Tell Us About Our Beliefs?*

An exploration of what an embodied Unitarian Universalism could be about. Take time to consider what your body is telling you about what you believe, who you are, and what your story is.

— Rev. Lane Campbell

December 22 | *How Can We Let the Light In?*

An annual celebration of the Winter Solstice. The days have been growing shorter and we celebrate the return of the sun through stories, song, & ritual.

— Rev. Lane Campbell

December 24 | *Each Night a Child is Born is a Holy Night*

Come celebrate the beauty of Christmas Eve with the carols, lessons, story of the birth of Jesus, and a no-rehearsal Christmas pageant for all ages (*of course!*). This will be a contemplative, interactive service for families of all kinds. Let us join together for this beautiful and holy night.

— Rev. Lane Campbell - *Service Begins at 7pm*

December 29 | *Paws to Think About*

We pamper our pets, and are health-conscious, environmentalist, peaceful advocates for the underdog. So how is it that we still may be unknowingly complicit in far-reaching systems of violence. As we round the bend into a new year, let's "paws" to think about and consider some new paths.

— Lois McAllister Baum

❖ **Services begin at 10:30am** ❖



The Time for Curiosity

Message from Rev. Lane Campbell

As the winter holiday season begins, as we drift into a time of year that is often busy and joyful and stressful, what better time to embrace curiosity? It's in moments when we are rushed or even moments when we are moving from one thing to the next that a moment of curiosity can shift the whole tenor of the day, the whole dynamic of the situation. To be curious is to wonder. What's going on for me here? To be curious is to sit with whatever comes for a moment. Is there a feeling or a sensation I am experiencing? To be curious is to abandon certainty and embrace a stance of openness.

There are so many questions to explore in this season. What is worth waiting for? How will I get it all done? Where can family and connection and community be found? So many questions. Yet, if you are like me, we spend a bunch of time in the doing, rather than in the questions. We spend a bunch of time remembering what this season is like and powering through it.

What does it look like to be a people of curiosity in this season of the year?

It might look like slowing down to explore our internal workings. It might look like sitting with the anticipation of what is to come. It might look reflective. It might look like asking the wondering questions and sitting with them rather than finding the answers.

I am excited to be on this journey of curiosity with you all, First Universalist. It couldn't come at a better time.

Sending love along the journey,
Rev. Lane Campbell ❖



A Big NYSCU Thank You!



Submitted by Ann Rhody

We did it! The NYSCU Annual meeting, hosted here on October 25 and 26, was a big success, thanks to so many people who worked hard to make it happen. Thanks especially to food coordinator **Paula Marchese**; House Manager **Ed Deller**; staff members **Brandon Fagan**, **Emma Barry**, **Carol Williams**, **Sundae Hodge**, and **Brock Tjosvold**; home hospitality co-chairs **Donna Anderson** and **Karen Ruganis**; and the throngs of volunteers (*see the list below*) who so generously gave of their time, food, extra tables, and smiles to welcome our guests. Thanks also to **Rev. Lane Campbell** and **Rev. Michelle Yates** for enriching worship; **Rev. Lane**, **Theo Munson**, **Elizabeth Osta**, and **Karen Dau** for workshop presentations; and **Michael Scott** for skillfully introducing our Hope Jones organ to the gathered community. Co-chairs Nancy Gaede and Ann Rhody are most grateful to all of you! ❖

Bundles of thanks to our NYSCU Annual Meeting volunteers!

Rachael Baldanza	Heather Jones
Juanita Ball	Joy Lecesse
Greg and Lois Baum	Newcomb Losh
Dolores Dalomba	Jim & Kathi Milch
Christine DeGolyer	Brian Mumey
Becky & Bill Elwell	Robert Remley
Janet Clarke Hazlett	Sarah Singal
Pat Deane	Clinton Swingle
Marti Eggers	Connie Valk
Eileen Fernandez	Bridget Watts
Katherine Flynn	Tom Williams
Dick & Joyce Gilbert	



Curious Questions

*Message from Rev. Michelle Yates,
Minister of Life Span Faith
Development*

I loved asking questions as a kid! Besides answers, I heard the best stories. I was lucky! Rarely in my family or at school did anyone shut me down, dismiss or yell at me for asking too many questions. Though adults sometimes said that they couldn't answer any more questions right now. I am delighted when my step kids ask me questions, and I'm probably guilty of over answering. My two year old will say, "Wa Appen, Mama?," which means "What happened, Mama?". I sometimes struggle to answer in terms that he can understand and am mindful of the messages and judgements I may be giving with my answer. It is a magical and awesome opportunity to help someone learn about and try to make sense of the world.

Parenting a toddler through the holidays for the first time, and revising our Children's Faith Development policies, I often wonder "Do we still want to do things the way we have? Is there a better way considering how we have learned and grown as a family and society? Is this way the most inclusive? But I have found that these are often not the most helpful questions. When struggling with a choice, judgement or conflict, curious questions, like those asked by children, are the way to go. Less about "what will we do", and more about "why will we do it."

Why did we do things that way before? Why did we put out cookies and milk? Why do we need this policy? Why do I feel stuck, uncomfortable, defensive, etc.?

It can be hard to tease out these questions and the answers on our own, but I think that is one of the reasons we go to church; to join in covenanted community to ask our curious and compassionate questions together.

Other opportunities to do this besides Sunday worship might include joining a Small Group Ministry group, attending a Cozy Night Supper or FIRE event, dropping in at the Drop-In Discussion or Book Group, and more. Check out the descriptions of these groups and events here in the Outlook.

Why not?

Yours in the Journey,

Rev. Michelle ❖

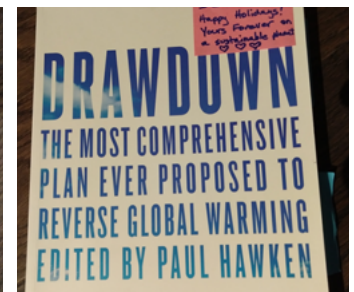
EcoJustice:

12 Green Gifts to give Your True Love (and Everybody Else) this Holiday Season



Submitted by Sarah Singal

- A copy of *Drawdown*, by Paul Hawken
- Donation or membership in *The Sierra Club*, *Moms Clean Air Force*, or *The Environmental Defense Fund*, among many others.
- Reusable containers or mug to bring home leftovers to substitute for Styrofoam or single use plastic.
- A year's subscription to a compost service.
- A tree or a tree seed to plant.
- A vegetarian or a vegan cookbook.
- A warm sweater, socks, vest or blanket to wear in a chilly house. (*Not microfiber fleece that is made out of plastic and adds tiny bits to the laundry water.*)
- A produce share in a CSA (*Community Supported Agriculture*).
- An electric car! Or city bus passes or personal voucher for Lyft/Uber rides.
- Cotton string shopping bags.
- An invitation to attend your city or town council meeting, to observe or to speak.
- A ride to your favorite climate action meeting (*RAICA? CCL? RPCC? Pachamama?*) along with lunch or dinner. ❖



Book Group

Submitted by Shirley Bond

This month's book, *When: the Scientific Secrets of Perfect Timing* by Daniel H. Pink, was suggested by Cathie Grisley, and what a perfect selection it is for the holiday season!

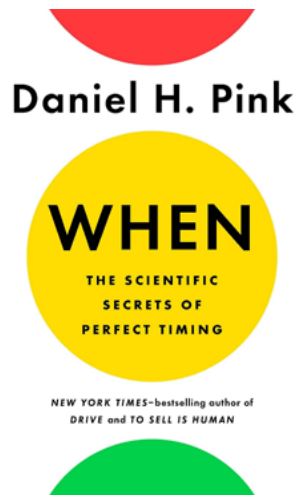
This is an extremely uplifting and informative book. I would not exactly say a "fun book," but it's close. If you have ever wondered when is a good time to make a change in your life but you are stuck with procrastination, this book is for you.

When is the perfect time? To schedule surgery? To ask the boss for a raise? To take a break from your daily routine? Ask in the morning. As the day drags on so does the energy level. For myself, I pretty much know when it is getting close to 3 pm!

So join us on December 29 for an hour of discussion about *When*, and we might even have some leftover holiday cookies! We meet at 12 noon in the Chalice Room. You do not have to read the book to participate but it might help. Our Book Group goal is really to be introduced to books that we might not be familiar with.

A heads-up: Our January selection is *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*, by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz.

Any questions please talk to Sarah Singal or Shirley Bond. Book suggestions are always gratefully received and taken under consideration. If you have read a good book lately share it with us at Book@uuroc.org! ❖



Drop-In Discussion Schedule

Submitted by Beth Ares

Drop-in discussions are held each Sunday morning in the Chalice Room on the second floor of our church, starting at 9:15am.

Sometimes our discussions are based on certain books or articles, but you don't have to read anything or do any advance preparation to participate. **Just drop-in.** People of all viewpoints are welcome to make presentations or join the discussions.

Dec. 1 | *The Baha'i Faith*

Baha'is believe there is one God who reveals His will in every age through a chosen individual. Thus the world's great religions are expressions of a single unfolding divine plan. Munir Bahai, presenter.

Dec. 8 | *The Police Accountability Board Alliance*

Please join Reverend Wanda Wilson, pastor of Open Arms Fellowship Ministries for a talk on the Alliance and the successful vote for the establishment of a Police Accountability Board in Rochester, New York. How we can help in this important endeavor? Plan to attend and lend your heart and hope.

Dec. 15 | *Poles Apart: Keeping Lines of Communication Open*

How we can best engage ourselves in conversation with people who politically live in an alternative universe. We will explore doing so in a way that promotes respect and understanding. Janus Mary Jones, presenter.

Dec. 22 | *Got Fuel?*

Have you thought about how much the fuels you use affect your personal carbon footprint? We fly in airplanes, drive cars, use public transportation, and heat our homes with fuels. How much does your fuel use help or hurt the environment? Information will be provided to help us make the best choices possible. Kate Fleury, presenter

Dec. 29 | *Open Topic*

What's on your mind this morning? We always end up with a thought provoking discussion even without a prepared topic. Join us and see for yourself.

Do you have a topic for us—intellectual, profound, simple, or silly? Contact our team members with your Drop-In Discussion proposals: dropindiscussion@uuroc.org ❖

UU and You

Submitted by Connie Valk

Have you been a frequent visitor? Curious about the Unitarian Universalist faith and how First Universalist works to fulfill its mission to "nurture our faith and serve the community?" Meet Rev. Lane in the back of the sanctuary after the service on December 15. This is a short orientation session with time for your questions. ❖

Cozy Night Suppers



Submitted by Kathy Russell

Please join us for the Friday, December 27th Cozy Night Supper and bring those holiday guests with you too! Held in the Clara Barton Lounge, the potluck dinner is from 5:30- 6:30 and the program is from 6:30-7:30. This year's suppers will have a spiritual development focus and the program will be facilitated by Rev. Michelle Yates.

The theme for December is "Blue Christmas" or the "Longest Night." Not everyone is feeling cheerful and joyous during the holidays, or indeed 24/7 during the holiday season. The darkest night of the year can sometimes find us in a dark night of the soul. Let's gather in community to reflect on the feelings of loss or sadness that can often come with this time of year.

Please let us know you will be attending by communicating with the church office or signing up on the hall bulletin board. Childcare is available if requested a week in advance. And for those who plan ahead, other Cozy Night Supper dates are 2/28, and 3/27. ❖

Eastman at Washington Square Concerts

Concerts are held at our church at lunch time on Thursdays. Each concert begins at 12:15 pm and ends at approximately 12:45 pm. Admission is free. Bring your brown bag lunch and enjoy.

• December 5 | Piano Extravaganza II

Featuring students from the piano studio of Professor Alexander Kobrin.

• December 12 | Colors of Winter

The New Horizons Chorus, under Juli Elliott, performs music about the sights, sounds, and colors of winter.

Happy Holidays!
We'll return on January 2, 2020 ❖

Finance News

Submitted by Ann Rhody for the Finance Committee

Annual Treasurer's Report Available

Each fall, the Treasurer and Finance team do a final accounting of the past fiscal year, highlighting the "joys and concerns" of the numbers and trends. The Treasurer's report for 2018-19 is now available! Please see the bulletin board in the Court Street vestibule, or email finance@uuroc.org to request an electronic copy. Many thanks to Dick Shroyer for his service as our congregation's Treasurer!

Annual Service Auction February 2, 2020

Two questions:

- Do you have a 2020 Calendar?
- Have you marked Sunday, February 2 as the date for the Service Auction?

If you are fairly new to First Universalist, we warmly invite and encourage you to participate in the Auction. If you've been around awhile, you already know that the Service Auction is a not-to-be-missed event!

So why do we call it the "SERVICE" Auction?

For this main fund-raising event of our church year, we focus on fellowship and fun, rather than selling objects. So the tradition has been for members and friends to donate a "service": a meal, event, or personal talent. While we do have our share of objects in the auction each year, these services provide a chance for us to interact with one another and build community.

This year's Service Auction chair is Katherine Flynn, and she will be assisted by Paula Marchese and Ann Rhody. Each year's Auction requires a team of volunteers, donors, and bidders, and you are most welcome to serve in any or all of these roles!

Please begin to think about what you may wish to donate this year. Theme dinners, custom baked goods, and homemade jams and jellies are typically great sellers. *Please note that the Service Auction is NOT the place for garage sale objects, getting rid of household clutter, or downsizing*

Donation forms will be available in early January, and much more info will be coming soon. Katherine and the team are happy to provide info about donations you may be considering, so don't hesitate to contact them!

Mark those 2020 calendars and plan to attend the Service Auction after the worship service on February 2!

If you have any finance-related concerns or questions, let's talk! Contact Finance Chair Ann Rhody at finance@uuroc.org ❖

Living Our Values, Making a Difference

Submitted by Nancy Gaede, and Emma Barry



NYSCU Friday Night

The Friday organ showcase was well attended on the opening night of NYSCU!



Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray Keynote!

Our keynote speaker, UUA president Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, packed our sanctuary with her inspiring talk on Saturday morning.



Train for RAIHN!

Submitted by Marti Eggers

Please join all the wonderful volunteers who host temporarily homeless families at our church. Enjoy meeting new people and working together as you provide a welcoming home during our next RAIHN Week from February 9–16. Most volunteer spots are for a couple of hours – preparing and serving a hot evening meal, helping with homework, other evening activities, overnight presence, and breakfast.

Step 1): Attend a two-hour RAIHN volunteer training program: February 11th, 2020 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Pittsford.

You will learn what the RAIHN program is all about as well as the skills you need to volunteer. There will be ample time for questions as well.

Step 2): Contact Chris DeGolyer (chrisdeg@frontiernet.net or 461-3616) to sign up for a volunteer spot during the our February RAIHN Week.

Questions? Ask Chris or Marti Eggers or Ed Deller.

**RAIHN – Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network – Keeping families together; getting families home for good. ❖*

Social Justice Plate:

Rochester Area Interfaith Climate Action

Submitted by Shirley Bond

We received this lovely note from *Rochester Area Interfaith Climate Action* for our recent contribution of \$308:

"The *Rochester Area Interfaith Climate Action* is a group of individuals and organizations of faith in the Rochester metropolitan area seeking to create a meaningful response to climate change. Working together we seek to share resources and care for the earth and its people. Thanks again for the much-needed support." – Bill Bross, treasurer.

We also received many vocal thanks from the *Police Accountability Board Alliance* for our check from the congregation for \$304. The check was received on November 3, just in time for the purchase of signs and other printing needs. ❖

Eunice Eckberg Memorial Film Series: "13th"



Submitted by Stephen Munson

The next film in our series will be "13th" shown on Sunday, December 8 from 1:30pm to 4pm in the Clara Barton Lounge.

History of racial inequality in the United States, focusing on nation's prisons that are disproportionately filled with African-Americans. (2016, Ava DuVernay)

Each film is \$5 each, and includes popcorn and a beverage! Please RSVP to FIRE@uuroc.org. You can find more information on upcoming films in this series by visiting uuroc.org/social-justice or the events tab of the UURoc Facebook page! ❖

Chalice Lighters



Submitted by Ed Deller, House Comm. Chair

Chalice Lighters share their artistic and design talents with First Universalist by setting up the Chalice at the front of the sanctuary each Sunday.

Chalice Lighters can bring flowers or arrangements to add to the tapers and other items provided by the church. It is an easy and fun way to contribute to our beloved community. Please contact Kate Fleury at 845-926-2332 or ekard2911@gmail.com if you would like more info. ❖

Roc/ACTS News

Submitted by Shirley Bond

Well, we did it! Overnight vigils in front of City Hall, over 2,000 postcards of support signed, press conferences organized, countless hours of phone canvassing, door-to-door weekend door-knocking, and it seemed like endless City Council meetings, not to mention festival attendances (actually, that was kind of fun)! And guess what? A beautiful end result: The Police Accountability Board referendum passed in the City of Rochester. By faith organizations working together, the seemingly impossible was accomplished. First Universalist's commitment never wavered and was always there for support. Robert Remley, I, and dozens of others all pitched in. Even a "How is it going?" question on Sunday morning really helped.

Of course, there is a ton of work that needs to be done! We are now in the process of asking Rochester citizens if they would like to be on the PAB. For applications please email Knight0400@yahoo.com.

Another point of interest is an event that took place on October 29 sponsored by Roc/ACTS Criminal Task Force and the Unitarian Criminal Justice Ministries called "A Mile in my Shoes." The event honored formerly incarcerated people who have successfully transitioned back into society. It was held at the Hyatt and attended by 100 people. It was good to mingle with like-minded people and to support former prisoner Agape Towns and other speakers.

So, speaking of that, please do not forget our Roc/ACTS Annual Fundraiser Banquet being held at the Stardust Ballroom on December 8. The Edgerton Community Center is the place to be at 3 pm. The tickets are \$60. If you are busy that day a monetary contribution would be gratefully received for people who would not necessarily be able to attend. If you want to attend, see Shirley Bond or Robert Remley.

Other Dates to Remember:

• Criminal Justice Task Force

will meet December 9th at the Ellen Stubbs Apartments, 396 Hudson Ave.

• The Education Task Force

meets the second and fourth Sundays at the Unitarian Church, 220 Winton Road South. They are heavily involved in the Pipeline to Prison issue.

• Poverty and Jobs

meets the third Thursday of every month at SEIU (Union Building), 259 Monroe Avenue.

• On January 21, 2020, we would like to get 1,000 people from upstate to descend on Albany for HALT—Humane Alternatives to Long-Term Solitary Confinement. More information will be forthcoming.

If you have any further questions, please see Robert Remley or Shirley Bond. ❖

The Sacrament of Foot Washing at the House of Mercy



Submitted by Kate Fleury

Homeless clients at the House of Mercy allow us to come into their lives to share with them the sacrament of footwashing. Men and women soak their feet in a bubbling foot bath, and have their toenails trimmed by Registered Nurses.

Our clients walk all over the city of Rochester, and will benefit from learning self care of the feet, and from having the tools to do this.

Please join us in this important work by donating the following equipment and supplies:

- Used clean towels, socks and shoes
- Small Vaselines
- Nail clippers
- Emery boards
- Pumice stones
- Corn starch

Please contact Kate Fleury at 845-926-2332 or ekard2911@gmail.com for more information. ❖

Homeless Heartbeats

*How to help the homeless ...
let me count the ways*



Submitted by Lois Baum

It's hard to comprehend not living inside a building, an apartment, or a house. Yet for a myriad of reasons, far too many people are without adequate housing, and the number is growing. Our hearts break for their suffering.

The concept of Housing First has become well-recognized. I'll attempt to define this in layman's terms: Previously, it was widely accepted that the homeless be required first to: clean up, get off the drugs, get a job, and if no sanctions, only then would the system make an effort to find them housing. If we can only imagine living in poverty, walking in rotted, worn out shoes, that expectation was already doomed. However, Housing First means just that... placing someone into housing first. This means social workers and caseworkers can more easily access someone and offer specific help and programs they may need. Nationwide, Housing First is proving to be hugely successful, and far less expensive than the previous system.

What may be more difficult to understand is that some homeless folks make the choice to live outdoors, year round, in all kinds of weather. Some actually resist entry to a shelter, won't come inside, not even for a meal! One explanation could be an untreated mental illness. Nonetheless, homeless hearts beat, and they have basic life-sustaining needs, just like you and me.

Individually, there are so many things each of us can do to help Rochester's chronically homeless community. You may already be part of a group, or an organization. Here are a few other ideas. Please consider where and how you can help, in any of these ways:

- Monthly, give a small monetary donation to one or more shelters

- Donate clothing and misc. items (small or large quantities) to:

» **Matthew's Closet**

316 Bay Street, Rochester NY 14605

» **Meals for Peace Village**

outdoor homeless encampment; FB = Home 4 the Homeless; group meals (*SignUpGenius*) deliver only, M-F, 5-7pm: contact Lois kissapawdaily@gmail.com

» **REACH Home:** reachadvocacy.org

720 W. Main, Rochester NY. Temporary winter shelter to open before Thanksgiving, 2019; preparation help needed now: contact John Curran jecurran@rochester.rr.com

» **House of Mercy:** houseofmercyrochester.org

» **St. Joe's:** saintjoeshouse.org/blog/volunteering/

» **PCHO:** pcho.org/support/

It is helpful to know that shelters exchange donated items (ie: clothing, etc) with each other as needed per location. It is also important to note that specific and ever-changing needs are listed on each shelter's website. Give only what they ask, not more as that leads to overload and they have limited space.

Volunteer help and/or financial support is always needed.

There are countless ways to help. All of your efforts, already made and those yet to be, are so greatly appreciated. ❖

Small Group Ministry: *Poised to Expand!*

Submitted by Rev. Michelle Yates

Small Group Ministry is designed to foster connection and caring, to provide an avenue for spiritual growth and development, and to strengthen the fabric of our church community by exploring various topics.

Participants commit to attending a series of five or six sessions. Sometimes, groups request to continue for longer periods of time. Each group is led by a trained facilitator and meets in people's homes or the Chalice Room at church.

Interested in joining a Small Group Ministry in the new year? Take a look at the description on our website uuroc.org under the "connect" tab or email SGM@uuroc.org to learn more. ❖

EcoJustice:

Calculating My Own Carbon Footprint (Surprise and Shame)



Submitted by Submitted by Kate Fleury

Well it's not surprising that I've had a hard time figuring out my "carbon footprint", the amount of greenhouse gases I generate in a year. There are many sites where you can get a personalized estimate of your carbon footprint. They use different categories to arrive at the score. In America, the average carbon footprint is 16 metric tons/year, in the world an average footprint 5 metric tons/year, and the target to combat global warming is 2 tons/year. Depending on which site I used, I generate between 30-50 tons of carbon/year. Whew! I thought I was doing well because I compost!

What is involved in calculating the carbon footprint for an individual? Most sites use categories like transportation, housing, recycling/waste, and personal habits. I have a 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan, and I typically make 2 air flights/year, so my transportation score is 5 tons of carbon! The type of fuel or electricity used to heat/cool a home is important. In my rental house, using propane and electricity, I create 5 tons of carbon! Ideas for improving efficiency in the home are not new, but now they are becoming critical. (I did not see new construction, another major contributor to greenhouse gases, included on any of the sites.)

Shopping habits for goods and services are something we can control. Buying currently fashionable clothing, "fast fashion", contributes to the production of waste, if it is discarded after only a few wearings. Services include cell phone services, health care, and so on. One thing that I did not see mentioned on any site so far is shipping. I always enjoy "free" shipping, when I qualify, or "overnight" shipping, if it is included. But that does not mean the shipping is free for the planet! The transportation costs and use of fuel to provide these benefits for me have a cost to the environment. (None of the sites I saw mentioned the cost of disposing of electronic components, or other types of hazardous waste.)

How we handle waste is another category used to calculate a carbon footprint. Recycling, composting, reusing, borrowing are ways to reduce waste. Recycling just became more complicated in Monroe County, because the recycling materials have to be only certain types to make recycling plant processes feasible. Recycling materials "contaminated" by the many varieties of packaging available may cause the entire load from a household to be redirected to the landfill.

All of the sites have recommendations for offsetting your carbon footprint. It could be turning off the lights when you leave a room, hanging your clothes on a line to dry, eating less meat, or supporting efforts around the world that directly reduce carbon.

So how did I do? Well depending on which site I used, I generate about 30-50 tons of carbon per year.

The rental house I live in was designed to use propane. I have an older van, which uses more fuel. I haven't stopped eating meat yet, and I still wash my clothes in warm water. Obviously I have some personal calculating to do so I can lessen my carbon impact. How will you do?

Carbon Footprint Calculation Sites:

- **Environmental Protection Agency:**
www3.epa.gov > carbon-footprint-calculator
- **The Nature Conservancy:**
nature.org > get-involved > how-to-help > consider-your-impact
- **Conservation International:**
conservation.org > carbon-footprint-calculator
- **Carbon Footprint, Ltd.:**
carbonfootprint.com > calculator ❖



Collection:

Batavia Backpack Project with Los Samaritanos

Submitted by Rev. Michelle Yates

As a social justice project, our children voted to create Dignity Bags for those released from the Batavia Detention Center. They will assemble these bags at a Family night in January, but are asking for content donations until then. Items can be left in the food collection baskets in the sanctuary.

Items needed: backpacks (can be used, but appropriate for an adult), non-perishable packaged snacks, combs, travel toothbrushes and toothpastes, wet wipes and/or hand sanitizers, small packets of tissues, sturdy envelopes for important papers, empty reusable water bottles, \$20 in cash or a visa gift card for \$20, pairs of socks, small notebooks and pens, winter coats, sweatshirts, packet hand warmers, hats and gloves. Thank you!! ♦

Update from F.I.R.E.

First Universalist Initiative for Racial Equity



Submitted by Elizabeth Osta

FIRE, the Fall 2019 rename of the project team that sponsored the June 2nd vote to partner with Spiritus Christi Anti-racism Coalition. (SPARC) where you are welcome to join us as we meet every other Monday and learn and support. All are welcome! 5:30 p.m. (Fitzhugh Street).

FIRE is a church wide initiative whose ultimate goal is to address systemic and institutional racism to move to a more racially just society.

FIRE whose partnership with SPARC includes as a long-term goal, development of a Heritage Civil Rights

Site in Baden Street park to educate and involve the community.

FIRE whose coordinating team facilitates:

- Church wide events on Second Sundays:
- Drop-in-Discussions: 9:15 -10:15 a.m.

and the

- Eunice Brooks Eckberg Racial Justice Memorial

Film Series: 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

FIRE is a Church wide initiative of all of us **coming together to learn.**

GEVA – Niceties - through Nov. 17th discussion of power and purpose.

JCC Thursday Nov, 14th Division Street Play.

Special Thanks to Ann Rhody for arranging an all church email with links to obtain discounted tickets for First Universalist members and friends.

Hochstein - How to be AntiRacist (Author event November 18th Ibram Kendi

Current FIRE coordinating team:

Theo Munson & Elizabeth Osta: Co-chairs;

Shelly Adams, Donna Anderson, David Markham, Richard Reed, Tim Mullins, and Kelly Scott, Dave VanArsdale, Reverend Lane Campbell.

Next meeting is January 13th 1:30 in the Chalice Room.

Additional events are evolving because we are **On FIRE** for racial justice. We are a group in process of becoming more aware and more just!

Contact us at FIRE@uuroc.org ♦



First Universalist Church of Rochester

150 South Clinton Avenue
Rochester, NY 14604



First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY

Nurture the spirit and serve the community.

First Universalist Church is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, a liberal religion with historical roots in the Jewish and Christian traditions.

Worship service begins at 10:30am Sundays

Minister | Rev. Lane Campbell

Minister of Life Span Faith Development |
Rev. Michelle Yates

Music Director | Brock Tjosvold

Office Administrator | Emma Barry
Office hours: Tue-Fri, 9am-4pm; closed Mondays

Sexton | Brandon Fagan

Nursery Care Providers |
Carol Williams & Sundae Hodge

Board of Trustees 2018–2019

Eric Van Dusen (*President*), Theresa McFarland-Porter (*Vice-President*), Nancy Gaede (*Clerk*), Karen Ruganis, Kitty Forbush, Richard Reed, Tim Mullins, The Rev. Lane Campbell (*ex-officio*)

Editor, monthly newsletter *Our Outlook*, & *This Week at First Universalist* (digital): Emma Barry

More info is available on our website: uuroc.org
The usual deadline for all submissions to *Our Outlook* is the 15th of each month.