



# Our Outlook

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First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY

February 2018

## Sunday Services | February 2018

**February 4 | *Six More Weeks of Winter?*** What does Groundhog Day tell us about ourselves and our connection with the Earth and the weather? What are the gifts and the needs? And how do we respond?  
—Rev. Peggy Meeker

**February 11 | *Evolution Sunday.*** Today we will celebrate Charles Darwin (a Unitarian!), born 209 years ago tomorrow, and take a look at some of his thinking and some of the lessons in the science and the story of evolution.  
—Rev. Peggy Meeker

**February 18 | *Humanism Then and Now.*** The story of Humanism in Unitarian Universalism has taken some interesting turns, and then there’s African-American Humanism. We’ll look at some of the people, the stories, and the gifts of Humanism.  
—Rev. Peggy Meeker

**February 25 | “Free at Last!”: *Notable Black Rochesterians Interred at Mount Hope Cemetery.*** Join First Universalist member from Washington, DC, Verdis Robinson, as he shares and sings stories and lessons from the lives of notable African Americans laid to rest in Rochester’s historic Mount Hope Cemetery. What messages can their legacies offer us in this time and era? Join us in this celebration of African-American History Month.  
—Verdis Robinson





# Pastor's Perspective

Message from  
The Reverend Peggy Meeker

## Black History Month

Let me start by saying that we—especially we here at First Universalist, and especially this year—should not confine the celebration of black history to one month. I hope to be especially mindful this month, but not *just* this month, of the words and deeds of black theologians, writers, poets, activists, and others as I think about material for use in Sunday morning sermons and services.

And so for this issue of *Our Outlook*, I'd like to celebrate Langston Hughes, born February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1902 in Joplin, Missouri. Hughes was a leader of the Harlem Renaissance in New York City in the 1920s along with Zora Neale Hurston, Wallace Thurman, Claude McKay, Countee Cullen, Richard Bruce Nugent, and Aaron Douglas. I got these names from Wikipedia, and was dismayed not to know that Thurman was a novelist; McKay a writer and poet; Nugent a writer and artist, and one of the very few of his contemporaries who was publicly out as a gay man; and Douglas a painter and illustrator. (So I only recognized two of the six names.)

Another thing I just learned from Wikipedia is that according to Anthony Pinn, historian of Black humanism, Hughes was a humanist, “critical of belief in God [who together with Lorraine Hansberry and Richard Wright] provided a foundation for nontheistic participation in social struggle.”

From Hughes's poem “Freedom's Plow”—

A long time ago,  
An enslaved people heading toward freedom  
Made up a song:  
*Keep Your Hand On the Plow! Hold On!*  
That plow plowed a new furrow  
Across the field of history.  
Into that furrow the freedom seed was dropped.  
From that seed a tree grew, is growing, will ever grow.  
That tree is for everybody,  
For all America, for all the world.  
May its branches spread and its shelter grow  
Until all races and all peoples know its shade.

**KEEP YOUR HAND ON THE PLOW!**

**HOLD ON!**

I wish you all an inspiring Black History Month. May we live and learn, and hold on!



## Cozy Night Supper

Submitted by Kathy Russell

Our next *Cozy Night Supper* will be Friday, February 2nd. This dinner, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, will feature the **Empty Bowls Project**, a focus on hunger in our community. A simple supper, including a vegan option, will be provided along with wonderful camaraderie - hopefully including you! You will choose the handmade pottery bowl to use for dinner and for a donation of at least \$10 to Foodlink, you will take home your bowl with a full stomach and the knowledge you contributed toward making a difference in our community! A local agency representative will provide a brief program of the local hunger situation.

Let us know of your ability to attend by signing up on the Bulletin Board in the hall or by contacting Kathy Russel via [office@uuroc.org](mailto:office@uuroc.org). Your RSVP/sign up allows us to prepare appropriately. Child-friendly activities will be arranged if you make a request one week in advance.

*Cooks, bakers and kitchen support are needed for this dinner.* If you are able to help in providing part of the meal (expenses reimbursed) or at the dinner itself, please contact Kathy. And for those who like to plan ahead, other Cozy Night Suppers are planned for Friday, March 23rd and Friday, April 20th.



# Walking Together

*Submitted by The Rev. Michelle Yates,  
Director of Life Span Faith  
Development*

This year, in Children’s Worship and beyond, we will be exploring our Unitarian Universalist Principles which we covenant to affirm and promote. Our Faith Development theme for February is the Fourth Principle, “A *FREE* and *RESPONSIBLE* search for *TRUTH* and *MEANING*,” or in our children’s version of the principles, “*Each person should be free to search for what is true and right in life.*”

*Freedom* of theology and freedom from dogma is a common theme when telling someone about Unitarian Universalism. It is also a common theme among the reasons why people have joined our faith from other religious traditions. We embrace the search, the quest, the journey, the question.

There is not a doctrine or church official to be the authority over our quest. To search *responsibly* means we try to engage the characteristics of humility, awareness, nonjudgment, balance, learning, engagement and focusing. Being responsible means holding ourselves accountable to our Covenant with our immediate and larger spiritual community of UUs. It means making room in our congregations for the spiritual needs and journeys of others who believe differently than us.

Each person’s path is unique. That means my path will not be the path for others, and I promise not to force my way on to others. I will appreciate that some days our worship service speaks to my journey and theology, and other days it speaks to someone else. When it is not “my day” I will be glad and supportive of the many people and many journeys that make up our fellowship. We are all richer for the diversity of spirituality within our faith community.

When we mention Truth and Meaning it is more than just facts. It is a search for both personal and universal truths. Once again, a diverse community helps give us new ideas or ways of looking at our truths from a different perspective; alighting our journey anew.

This principle has been described as the keystone linking both sides of the principles. It connects our value of the individual to our value of the community and inspires us to create a welcoming congregation that supports people on varied spiritual journeys.

This month consider your spiritual journey that has brought you to this point in your life. Ask others about their journey. Try to be curious about and supportive of others who believe differently.

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## Illuminating Justice Film and Discussion Series

*Submitted by The Rev. Michelle Yates*

On the second Sunday of the month thru April one or several film clips on a justice issue will be shown in the sanctuary after service at 12:00 pm. Films will last no more than 45-minutes to leave time for discussion.

Please email Rev. Michelle Yates with film, clip, or documentary ideas at [edu@uuroc.org](mailto:edu@uuroc.org).

**Feb 11<sup>th</sup>** - Accountability and our Police

**Mar 11<sup>th</sup>** - Incarceration in the Criminal Justice System

**April 8<sup>th</sup>**- Topic TBA



# From the Board of Trustees

*Submitted by Karen Ruganis*

The Board will occasionally be sharing newsworthy church-wide information and policy decisions in the Outlook. One of the Board's recent actions included approving the following policy regarding hiring.

"As a general policy, employment with the First Universalist Church of Rochester is not open to members or active friends of the congregation. These positions include those of the Office Administrator, Music Director, Nursery Care Provider, Sexton and Director of Lifespan Faith Development. Members of an employee's family may be considered for employment; however, relatives may not supervise one another. "Relative" includes but is not limited to spouse, domestic partner, parent, sibling, child, grandparent or grandchild."

We also wanted to republish a policy adopted last year.

"As a downtown church, First Universalist will from time to time be visited by people in need of food, shelter or other care. We will treat them consistent with the church's mission to serve the community and our first UU Principle which tells us to respect the dignity of all. To that end, unless there is a safety concern, we will welcome them for food or fellowship. We will provide suggestions for nearby shelters, food pantries or other care facilities. However, members and friends are discouraged from giving money directly."

Please contact any of the Board members if you have questions or comments. Board meeting minutes are available in the office.



## Service Auction 2018

*Submitted by Ann Rhody*

It's our big fundraiser, and so much fun! Be sure to pick-up your auction booklet AND plan to attend the auction on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

If you've participated in the Service Auction before, you know that it's a great time and helps raise funds for our church's programs. If you're new to the Auction, please know that you are welcome and encouraged to participate! Here's how it works:

- Members and friends donate services or goods... perhaps a dinner, outing, or specialty item.
- A booklet of auction items is available one week prior to the auction. You can look through the items and plan your bidding strategy and budget. Prices can range from a few dollars to.... well, why limit ourselves? There is something for every budget!
- Auction Sunday arrives, we enjoy a lunch after the service, and the bidding begins! It's a user-friendly event whether you're an experienced auction participant or if you've never bid on anything before.

Be sure to plan to attend! If you have questions, please contact Paul Marchese via [office@uuroc.org](mailto:office@uuroc.org). Don't miss out on the fun!

# Social Justice Plate

*Submitted by Shirley Bond, Marcia Weaver,  
and Becky Elwell*

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month our plate collection is designated for a local organization that thrives to improve our urban community

This month's recipient is The Greater Rochester Community of Churches (GRCC). This group helps to ease the pain that division causes our community.

Next month's offering will go to Metro Justice. This organization just celebrated its 50th year anniversary. Metro Justice is a local non-profit group that relies on grants, memberships, and donations from good folks like us. I am delighted that we partner with Metro Justice and that we also help them with human power when they need us. For example, Fight for 15, Health Care, Education, Elder Justice, and of course Racial Justice.

The teen urban group Well Vensions would like to thank us once again for our generous donation to them in November of almost \$300! Well Vensions is extremely grateful that we are anxious for them to succeed.

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## RAIHN



*Submitted by Kathy Russell*

Four times a year, temporarily homeless families stay at First Universalist for a week. We provide a safe haven and tasty meals.

To join the volunteers who make this happen, attend an orientation session which covers how RAIHN works, why it's needed, who are the families we serve, and what you need to know to volunteer.

Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 6:30 pm  
St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
2000 Highland Ave., Rochester

RSVP to Jen Canning, [coordinator@raihn.org](mailto:coordinator@raihn.org) or call (585) 506-9050. Questions? Ask Chris DeGolyer, Marti Eggers, or Sarah Singal after the Sunday service.

RAIHN

*Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network  
Keeping Families Together, Bringing Families Home*

# Coffee Hour

*Submitted by William Elwell*



Sunday Coffee Hour needs new volunteers. Too few people are doing this yeoman service. The volunteers, who are reimbursed for their expenses, usually provide a variety of cookies, bagels, veggies, crackers and cheese and perhaps a cake. The coffee is made by the sexton and keeping the coffee refilled is required as is clean-up. So, if you like Coffee Hour on Sunday, please consider serving at least one Sunday a year.

Contact Bill Elwell for complete instructions via [office@uuroc.org](mailto:office@uuroc.org).

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## WSPCA News

*Washington Square Park Community Association*

*Submitted by Newcomb Losh*

### Revitalizing Washington Square Park:

*Washington Square Park Community Association* (WSPCA) in conjunction with Rochester Community Design Center has begun Phase I of the WSP grant awarded by Rochester Area Community Foundation (RACF) last fall. This year-long study phase will include a mini-charrette (pronounced SHEH-rett) to bring park stakeholders together to discuss what is wanted and not wanted in this park.

Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Celebration: (FDB). WSPCA is a partnering organization in the FDB Celebration that will last all of 2018. The City keeps a list of events at [www.cityofrochester.gov/FrederickDouglass200](http://www.cityofrochester.gov/FrederickDouglass200).

Information on becoming a partner and creating an event has been shared with our FIAC leaders Becky Elwell, Heather Jones and Joy Lecesse.

### First Universalist involvement in WSPCA:

Newcomb Losh is stepping down from the WSPCA Board of Directors to spend time with family. Our Board of Trustees has decided that, at this time, we will be involved in WSPCA at the committee level.



## Thursday Lunchtime Concerts

The *Eastman at Washington Square* concerts will be held here at First Universalist Church on Thursdays during February (and into March). Join us on the 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd starting at 12:15 pm and ending at approximately 12:45 pm. Brown bag lunches are welcome during the performances, and admission is free.

For more information and the schedule, visit [www.esm.rochester.edu/community/events/lunchtime](http://www.esm.rochester.edu/community/events/lunchtime)

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## 2018 Stewardship News

*Submitted by Richard Reed*

Hello fellow congregation members and friends of First Universalist Church. Happy New Year to everyone. It's that time of year to let you know about this year's upcoming Stewardship campaign.

Our theme this year is *Thus Do We Covenant*. You will be hearing more in the next two months and you will be receiving your pledge information and card later in March. This will culminate on Stewardship Sunday on April 8<sup>th</sup>. After service that day, we will share in our annual pie celebration.

During the campaign we will be asking each of you to consider your support to the programs and ministries here at First Universalist. We thank you for your support in the past, currently, and in the future. Should you have any questions please see Ann Rhody or Richard Reed; 2018 Stewardship co-chairs.

## Roc/ACTS NEWS

*Submitted by Shirley Bond*

Roc/ACTS had their annual retreat January 10<sup>th</sup>. It was attended by over 80 people and I am pleased to note that the UUs were very well represented.

Roc/ACTS had a very involved survey compiled in 2017 and the results pointed out our strengths and weaknesses. We acknowledge the fact that structural racism is a systemic evil which charges through American culture via a system of policies and practices and which deliberately promotes white privilege while suppressing human rights for people of color. The survey compiled by Pastor Wanda Wilson shows we have a great deal of work to do inside Roc/ACTS.

For example, 60% of the respondents felt that there is racial inequality within Roc/ACTS. Therefore, a plan was made to assess radical/multiculturalism. Race is also one of the criteria Roc/ACTS uses for cutting edge issues, and people of color are definitely influencing the 'focus of work' in the task forces.

In the communications department most people were satisfied with the communications and felt that they projected diversity (Facebook, the website, etc.).

So the next step is rolling out these recommendations throughout the whole organization because we don't want to be an institution that reproduces white supremacy. Roc/ACTS only 3 years old, and still taking baby steps but getting stronger every day.

The FIAC committee is so grateful that First Universalist supports Roc/ACTS. Faith organizations working together are making a difference.

If you are interested in getting more involved or joining one of the Roc/ACTS task forces contact Shirley Bond or Robert Remley via [office@uuroc.org](mailto:office@uuroc.org).

# Living Our Values, Making A Difference

*Submitted by Newcomb Losh*

## Women March In Seneca Falls January 20, 2018

Theme: Sisters for Women's Equality  
<https://www.facebook.com/WomenMarchSenecaFalls>



*Carol Zimmerlin (left) and her sister Joy joined 10,000 others at the Women March 2018 in Seneca Falls.*



*Newcomb Losh joined the Women March 2018 in Seneca Falls.*

Permission to publish from: Carol Zimmerlin, Joy Zimmerlin, Newcomb Losh, Karen Dau, Jose Fernandez, Sheryl Dunbar, and Richard Reed.  
Photographers: Joy Zimmerlin, Chris DeGolyer for the Karen Dau picture and Newcomb Losh for the other pictures, and/or anonymous.

# RAIHN

*Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network  
Keeping Families Together, Bringing Families Home*

Five families joined us for our first RAIHN week of 2018 from January 7<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>.  
**Two of the families found permanent housing.**



*RAIHN volunteer Sheryl Dunbar cooked up a pot of tasty sauerkraut soup for our guests and volunteers.*



*RAIHN volunteer Jose Fernandez deflated one of the air mattresses used by our guests during RAIHN week.*



*RAIHN volunteer Karen Dau coordinated the RAIHN laundry. Four volunteers took care of washing the bedding.*



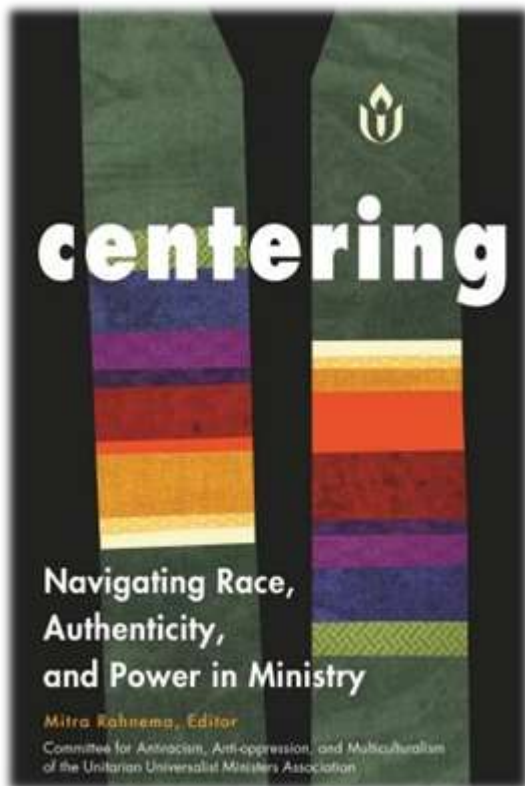
*RAIHN volunteer Richard Reed, who coordinated volunteers to help guests move their belongings and to return the rooms to church use, vacuumed a carpet in a RAIHN guest room.*

# UU Common Read Book Discussion

*Submitted by The Rev. Michelle Yates*

**Common Read Book Discussion:** Together we will read and reflect on one of the two UUA Common Reads this year, *Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry*, edited by Mitra Rahnema, which may be bought or borrowed from the church bookstore and library during coffee hour. *Centering* focuses on the stories, analyses, and insights of many Unitarian Universalist religious professionals of color as they explore how racial identity is made both visible and invisible in UU communities.

We will meet on Feb 1<sup>st</sup> and Feb 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm in the Chalice Room. Please let Rev. Michelle know if you are interested in attending at [edu@uuoc.org](mailto:edu@uuoc.org), and if you would be interested in reading and discussing the 2nd Common Read book “*Daring Democracy*” in the spring.



# Drop-in Discussion Schedule

*Submitted by Phil Ebersole*

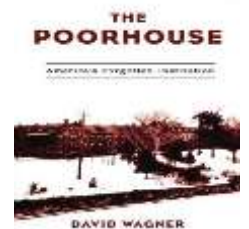
Drop-in discussions are held each Sunday morning in the Chalice Room on the second floor of our church, *starting at 9:15 a.m. during the regular church year*. Sometimes our discussions are based on certain books or articles, but you don't have to read anything or do any advance preparation to participate. Just drop in. People of all viewpoints are welcome to make presentations or join in the discussions.

## **February 4 | *The Poorhouse:* *America's Forgotten Institution.***

In early America, unemployed poor people were sent to an institution called the Poorhouse.

Drawing on *The Poorhouse: America's Forgotten Institution*,

Shelley Adams will make a presentation and lead a discussion on questions such as: What were the Poorhouses of the past used for? Who stayed in them and for how long? How does the legacy of the Poorhouse live on in today's institutions and attitudes?



**February 11 | *Religious ID.*** We'll share the labels by which we categorize ourselves religiously (theist, humanist, mystic, etc.) and explain what we mean by those labels. Phil Ebersole will facilitate.

**February 18 | *Homes for the Homeless.*** Second Wind Cottages in Ithaca and H.O.M.E. in Orland, Maine, are two examples of building housing and communities FIRST for homeless people. Kate Fleury will tell us about these efforts and help us imagine what kind of similar things might work in Rochester.

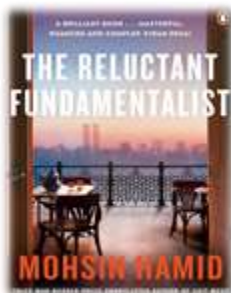
**February 25 | *Open Forum Discussion.*** We will meet and talk without a set topic. Phil Ebersole will facilitate.

If you wish to have a topic discussed or, better still, are willing to lead a discussion, speak to Phil Ebersole.



# Book Group

Submitted by Sarah Singal and Shirley Bond



The Book selection this month is *“The Reluctant Fundamentalist”* by Mohsin Hamid. A young man is chasing corporate success on Wall Street and finds himself embroiled in a conflict between his American dream, a hostage crisis, and a call to return to his family’s homeland.

March will bring us “La Rosa,” by Louis Erdrich.

Just a reminder that one does not have to have read the book to come to the discussion group. We meet upstairs in the Chalice Room at noon on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. For questions please contact Shirley Bond and Sarah Singal via [office@uuoc.org](mailto:office@uuoc.org).

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## RAIHN WEEK

September 29, 2017



RAIHN Volunteer  
Theo Munson

Permission to publish from: Theo Munson.  
Photographer: Newcomb Losh.

# Interfaith IMPACT of NYS (IINYS) Rochester Chapter

Annual Legislative Briefing  
**“A Better Prescription  
for Health Care in New York State”**

Sunday, March 11, 2018 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
First Unitarian Church, 220 S. Winton Road

### Speakers

Harry Bronson, NYS Assemblyman  
Carol Tegas, Executive Director Finger Lakes  
Performing Provider System  
Rohith Palli, Rochester Campaign  
for New York Health

The health care issue is ever changing and may be different in March than it is today. The current situation in New York State; status of health care in the legislature; and the case for single payer, universal health care will be discussed by the panelists.

Interfaith IMPACT of New York State (IINYS) is the progressive religious community’s voice for justice and human rights in New York State. We advocate for state policies that will improve the lives of all New Yorkers while stressing the moral and ethical values of these policies.

Please consider becoming a member of IINYS, at any level. Your contribution will help to continue the important work of IINYS. Donations can be made at <http://www.interfaithimpactnys.org/Donations.html> to either our 501C4 action arm or to the tax deductible 501C3 Interfaith IMPACT Foundation (518) 463-5652.

There will a Q & A after the formal presentations and a reception will follow immediately after the closing remarks. This event is free and an extremely important program.

For more information contact Judy Schwartz, Chair IINYS Planning Committee -Rochester Chapter at (585) 442-5111.

*Interfaith IMPACT of New York State (IINYS), Inc. works for the common good through progressive religious advocacy with the State Legislature, Executive Chamber and State agencies.*

# A Unitarian-Universalist Good Read

*CENTERING: Navigating Race, Authenticity  
and Power in Ministry*  
edited by Mitra Rahnema (2017)

*Submitted by Phil Ebersole*

Being a pastor must be one of the most stressful jobs there is. You have to take on the burden of everybody else's spiritual and emotional troubles without anybody — except your own pastor — to take on yours.

Being a member of a minority group must be stressful. I remember the first few times I was the only white person in the room; I felt everybody was looking at me and judging me. I had no rational reason for thinking so. But this would not necessarily have been the case if I'd been the only black person in a room full of white people.

Being a person of color who is the minister to a predominantly white congregation must be doubly stressful. In *Centering*, 18 Unitarian-Universalist ministers of color tell of their experiences in ministering to majority-white congregations.

Nine of the 18 contributors to this book are black; the rest comprise of three Hispanics, two ethnic Arabs, and one each ethnic Hindu, Chinese and Japanese and a multiracial person. The editor is a "multi-racial" Iranian-American. Each has a unique story to tell.

Some observations in this book made me feel defensive. An African-American minister said that liberal white people could sympathize with what he felt about the Ferguson killings, it takes a black person to truly understand.

My reaction to that was: *What does he expect me to do?* But the book isn't about me. It is about the experiences of UU ministers of color. And, as Beth Ares said during our drop-in discussion on *Centering*, when somebody takes the risk of revealing their innermost feelings, the least one can do is listen respectfully and with gratitude.

Part of the problem, as I see it, is that Unitarianism itself originated as a religion of an ethnic group — the New England Yankees. The joke about 19th century Unitarians was that they believed in the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man and the neighborhood of Boston. Universalists also were a product of white Anglo-Saxon Protestant culture.

This isn't necessarily true of UUs today, but UUA culture still bears the stamp of the ethnic culture of our founders. That culture is not a bad culture. But not everybody can relate to it.

The Rev. Derrick Jackson, one of the contributors, wrote that he is frustrated because, as he puts it, religion should engage the body, mind, heart and soul, while, for many white UUs, religion only engages the mind. This is a culture clash.

Another culture clash is the frequent African American insistence on the status of the minister — that he or she always be called Reverend or Pastor, and never by their first name alone, and that he or she never be called upon to do menial tasks, such as serving food or setting up folding chairs.

Upper-class or middle-class whites sometimes demonstrate humility by taking on servant roles. But for many black Americans, the servant role means servitude. Self-respect requires them to reject it.

A nice elderly white lady in the Rev. Cheryl M. Walker's congregation called her "Sweetie!" Rev. Walter replied pleasantly, but firmly, "That's 'Reverend Sweetie' to you, dear." The message was received.

There are a lot of things in the book like that to take in. I've only scratched the surface.

I look forward to the Common Read book discussions on *Centering*, which will be in the Chalice Room from 6:30 pm to 8:30 p.m. on February 1<sup>st</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Centering* is one of two UUA recommended Common Reads for 2017-2018; the other is *Daring Democracy* by Francis Moore Lappé and Adam Eichen. Both books are available for buying and borrowing from the church library and bookstore on Sundays during coffee hour in the Clara Barton lounge.

# Our Support For School #7 Makes A Difference

*Submitted by Bill Elwell*

The living tradition of this church is that Jewish and Christian teachings call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves. Some of our neighbors are in a real sense those students in School 7 that we have been connected to for several years. Tutoring by members but also by supporting the educational and physical requirements of these children through financial gifts is how we express that love.

As important as helping with reading, writing, and arithmetic, those of us involved directly in the classroom, is the listening and emotional support that is indirectly tied to school success that we provide. Like everyone else young people want to know that someone cares and is interested in them. Our church through our volunteers is meeting a real human need. Fulfilling this listening and emotional support would be expanded if more of our members and friends were in the classroom. If you would like to learn more about helping kids at School 7, contact Bill Elwell.

We do a lot. So far in this school year we have provided almost 20 backpacks, hundreds of mittens, classroom supplies as requested by teachers, and in the first week of January over 10 winter jackets that the school administrator said would be appreciated.

The school year is only half over and our long-standing alliance with School 7 will mean that our help will continue. We still have unspent funds that were generously provided through the Sunday plate offering. As other essentials are identified we shall meet those demands.



## Weekly Peace Vigils

*Submitted by Hal Bauer*

Join us at Goodman Street & East Avenue for our weekly, Sunday Noon, PEACE VIGILS from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, at the Rochester Museum and Science Center (RMSC), where you can warm up & enjoy science too. Make your sign sharing your views or choose one of many. Please - dress appropriately.

Questions? Contact Hal Bauer, Springwater Farm: (585) 335-2325.

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## House Committee News

*Submitted by Tom Ruganis*

The biggest story of January was the cold and related heat issues. Frozen pipes at the very beginning of RAIHN week were resolved without any damage. Several thermostats had issues because of low batteries. Checking the batteries will be added to the Fall Clean-Up day activities to prevent future issues. Please let the House Committee know if there are any lingering problems.

Additional quotes are being sourced for storm window replacement in both the Minister's Study and the Clara Barton Lounge.

As always, if you are interested in helping with the planning and maintenance of the building please feel free to contact anyone on the committee. The Committee is currently: Tom Ruganis, Chair via [office@uuroc.org](mailto:office@uuroc.org), Sarah Singal, Marcy Klein, Michael Scott, Ed Deller and Shirley Bond. We would love to hear from you!

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## Food Cupboard Update



*Submitted by Richard Reed*

Correction: The proper amount for the food given away for the Community Cupboard of Rochester was \$82,500 instead of \$185,500.

# First Universalist Church

150 South Clinton Avenue  
Rochester, New York 14606

## 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 from the Jewish and Christian traditions.

### Worship service begins at 10:30 am on Sundays

**Minister** | The Rev. Peggy Meeker

**Director of Life Span Faith Development** | The Rev. Michelle Yates

**Music Director** | Xiaoyu Yang

**Sexton** | Brandon Fagan

**Nursery Care Providers** | Carol Williams & Sundae Hodge

**Office Administrator** | Andrea Lewis

*Office hours, Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 am - 3:45 pm.*

*Closed Mondays. Telephone (585) 546-2826*

### Board of Trustees 2017 - 2018

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