

May / June 2014



Skylands Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

1811 Route 57, PO Box 7110, Hackettstown, NJ 07840 • 908-684-4040 • www.SkylandsUU.org

*Skylands UUF Meetings are held from 10:15 - 11:45 am, Sundays, September-June.
Religious Education is offered for children of all ages. Visitors are always welcome.*

May 4: *Transylvanian Unitarians - Partner Church Experiences*

May 11: *Honoring our Mothers - Josh Galster*

May 18: *How Great We Art? - Marin Martin*

May 25: *Memorial Day Weekend, A Morning of Remembrance - Robert Ingenito*

June 1: *RE Sunday*

Presentation by RE students and teachers of samples of the past year's curriculum. Recognition of students and teachers in the RE Program.

June 8: *Annual End-of-Year Picnic at Jennifer Palmer's*

12 noon to 5 pm at Jennifer Palmer's house.

Provided: Lemonade, ice tea juice, water, traditional baked beans, hotdogs and mac and cheese - please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. Grill provided if you want to BBQ something from home. Coolers with ice provided if you bring other beverages.

There is a pond for fishing, boating, and swimming for the brave. The lawn is squishy by the pond - wear old shoes or sandals if you plan to use the pond.

RSVP/questions/directions: Jennifer Palmer

Check our web site for updates and other summer activities: www.skylandsuu.org

Events at SUUF



SHAMANIC JOURNEY CIRCLE

May 22 (Fourth Tuesday), 7pm.

All are welcome to join in the meditative experience of shamanic journeying to the beat of a drum. It's a great way to gain spiritual insight, practice your journey skills, enjoy the company of wonderful spirited people and shake off the cares of your day. Bring your healing intentions too! There is no charge, but donations to help cover use of the facilities are always welcome.

GROW-A-ROW

Skylands has volunteered to do some gleaning for Grow-a-Row again this year.

We have two dates set over the summer and there will be another in the fall, TBD. The specifics for this summer are:

July 23rd, Wednesday, 5pm at Peaceful Valley Orchards in Pittstown

August 20th, Wednesday, 5pm also at Peaceful Valley Orchards in Pittstown

REFRESHMENTS AND KITCHEN HELP -

First Sundays are Pot Luck Lunch. Third Sundays usually has leftovers from the night before's music program, such as chips, salsa, hummus, and cookies. Second and Fourth Sundays are the most important to fill. Donations of cheese, crackers, nuts, soups, and other non-perishables can be stored. Calendar on the kitchen door for scheduling. Questions? See Ginny Mills

LET'S-GET-TOGETHER DINNERS -

These dinners are groups of 8-10 people who meet a few times a year at a member's house for dinner. Each person brings something to share. An opportunity for people to get to know each other, as people usually don't have time after Sunday services. Diane Dowd has kindly organized these in the past but would like to pass this on. Can you volunteer to step into her place?

Mark your calendars: <http://skylandsuu.org/calendar> for the full schedule of SUUF events

SEPT/OCTOBER UUNIOLOG: Please submit pertinent info by August 15th.

President's Message



LIVING SUSTAINABILITY

One topic that seems to be getting a lot of attention in the geology/environmental world is the concept of “sustainability”. In some ways this is an old concept rebranded, and in other ways it is the refocusing of a wide range of ideas into a novel concept, and/or applying this concept to a new set of principles.

Sustainability typically has environmental applications and implications, and is simply defined as a practice that can be continued indefinitely. Is the number of fish being harvested low enough so that a stable population can be maintained? Are crops farmed and harvested in a manner that minimizes soil erosion and the use of chemicals? Are water supplies used in way that future generations can also take advantage of them? This concept of doing something that can be continued in the future has been stated before, including the Iroquois concept of making decisions with the future 7 generations (~150 years) in mind, and has spread (sometimes disingenuously) to business practices, corporations and groups.

Beyond the environmental connotations sustainability has to my life, I also try to apply the concept to other factors as well. I try to keep in mind the question “Can I keep this up into the future?” when it comes to things like workload, or stress, or other things that are getting in the way of what I want to be doing. I have a job that is very flexible work hours, and I am quite grateful for that, but at the same time that flexibility gives me the “opportunity” to do things like work too often on evenings or weekends. Occasionally during busy times this is OK, but I try not to make a habit out of this, as I try to remember to ask myself “Can I, or do I want to, keep working at this pace for 5, or 10, or 20 years?” I wasn’t very happy with my work load for the first several months of this year, and I wasn’t able to dedicate myself to things like the Fellowship as much I wanted. I’ll try to readjust things in the future to avoid a situation like that again.

I think that this concept of sustainability, and doing things that can be maintained into the future, also applies to our Fellowship. What can we do now, and continue into the future? Recognizing our strengths and weaknesses will help with this process, especially as we adjust to not having Bill and Sue and Linda and Lee and others to help pick up the slack and get things done, often behind the scenes. I don’t want anyone to feel over-burdened with their responsibilities, as this just leads to burn out and potentially a pulling away from doing things. So, let’s try to be sustainable in our actions, whether environmentally, or personally, or in terms of the Fellowship.

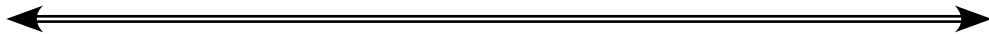
iGive.com



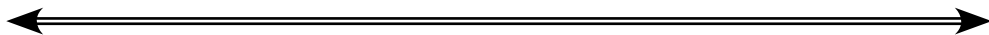
Turn Your Online Shopping & Searching Into Donations
For Skylands Unitarian Universalist Fellowship!

Every time you shop at any of the 1,000+ online stores in the iGive network, a portion of the money you spend benefits Skylands. It's a free service, and you'll never pay more when you reach a store through iGive. In fact, smart shoppers will enjoy iGive's repository of coupons, free shipping deals, and sales. To get started, just create your free iGive account.

Start iGiving at: www.iGive.com/SUUF



www.uua.org



Keep up with our local district at:
<http://uumetrony.org/>

Women's Circle

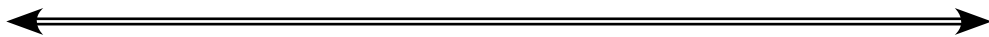


DAYTIME

Next daytime meeting is June 10.
Call Ginny for place and time.
908-852-8632.

EVENING

The SUUF (Evening) Women's Circle has re-formed. Since there are so many of us with varying schedules and who are not available on particular nights, for this year we will try to follow the full moon cycle as closely as possible. By following the moon, our meeting days will vary and all women who wish to participate will be able to at some point during the year. We have also decided that our circle should have a spiritual focus and will be using "Goddesses" as our theme this year. If you are not currently on the mailing list for this group, please contact Renee Paddock to be added. Meetings are on various days following the Moon cycle at 7:30pm at the Fellowship. May 14th and June 12th will be the upcoming meetings.



GROCERY CARDS

Our congregation participates in a fundraiser involving grocery cards. We buy grocery cards at Shop Rite and Weis in bulk for a discounted price. We sell the cards to you at face value. You aren't paying extra but we earn 5% from this fundraiser. We usually have cards worth \$100 to offer to members and friends, if you prefer a different denomination, please let Tara know and on the next order we will do our best to accommodate you. To buy cards, just see Tara after service on Sunday.

Skylands Fellowship Mission Statement

"We are a spiritual and intellectual community that embraces each child and adult in close fellowship, encourages the open exchange of ideas, provides religious education for all, and serves the larger community."

Adopted November 20, 2005

Coffeehouse



Join us at Riverside Rhythm & Rhyme for our Songwriters & Spoken Word Acoustic Open Mic! Strut your stuff at RRR! Signups begin at 6:30 and the spots go from 7-8, so spots are limited and given on a first-come basis. Third Saturday, September through May. After a brief intermission we will enjoy the talents of a regional Indie Songwriter. Admission is by donations at the door. Coffee and light refreshments available.

MAY 17 - JOANNE LURGIO

Singer-Songwriter born, raised and still residing in the smallest state in the USA, Rhode Island.

Joanne has a distinct Americana feel with New England charm. She moves from country to bluegrass, folk and r&b to gospel, all with a bluesy undertone. "If even for a moment, I can make you laugh, cry, reflect, remember or just forget the troubles of your day, then I have succeeded." - Joanne Lurgio



Riverside Rhythm & Rhyme goes on hiatus over the summer. Catch us again in September!

Many RR&R artists also perform at Groove in the Grove (www.grooveinthegrove.com) June 7

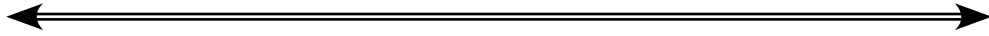




HELP KEEP OUR GROUNDS BEAUTIFUL!

Typical maintenance and beautification needed - Let us know if you would like to help with lawn mowing or garden tending.

Thank You!



SHAMANIC JOURNEY CIRCLE WITH JULIE LANGE GROTH

Fourth Tuesdays at 7:00



Skylands has a YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SklyandsUU>

Many of our services are represented.

Take a look if you have missed a Sunday or want to revisit the service.

Keep up with SUUF on Facebook, too!

Terracycle



Terracycle is a company that makes usable products out of things we normally throw away. They collect their raw materials from organizations like us, schools, businesses and individuals who ship their “garbage” to them. Terracycle pays for the shipping, and pays our congregation a small fee for each item collected.

Please drop off your terracycling items at the left of the bottom of the steps to the coffee area – behind the curtain.

Terracycle is also committed to education and has a curriculum available on their website: <http://www.terracycle.net/curriculums/overview>” In Nature garbage doesn’t exist, but it does in the human system. The Terracycle curriculum series focuses on how we can solve this problem.” For more information on Terracycle and to find where you can buy the products that terracycle makes using our garbage, go to: www.terracycle.net or find them on Facebook.

Attached is a list you can hang on your refrigerator to remind you about the packaging we recycle.

SUUF BRIGADES:

Chip (salty snack) Bag Brigade

We accept any brand/size of Chip/Snack BAGS and Multi pack outer bags.

Energy Bar Wrapper Brigade

We accept any brand/size of foil lined Energy Bar/Snack Bar/Granola Bar/ Meal Replacement Bar wrappers.

Dairy Tub Brigade

Yogurt tubs and lids, Sour cream tubs and lids, Cheese tubs and lids, Cream cheese tubs and lids, Butter and margarine tubs and lids, Plastic ice cream tubs and lids, Whipped topping tubs and lids, Pudding tubs and lids, Foil tops and plastic seals.

Drink Pouch Brigade

We accept any kind or brand of drink pouches. We do not accept juice boxes. (Must send 1000 per mailing to receive credit)

Scotch Tape Brigade

Any brand tape dispenser and cores.

cont’d ->

Hummus Container Brigade

Hummus containers and tubs, Hummus container lids, Hummus container foil tops and plastic film, Hummus container outer plastic seals and other plastic packaging.

Colgate Oral Care Brigade

Toothpaste tubes and caps, Toothbrushes, Toothbrush and toothpaste tube outer packaging, Floss containers.

MOM Brands® Cereal Bag Brigade

Plastic cereal bags, Plastic cereal bag liners.

Solo® Cup Brigade - ONLY #6 rigid plastic cups.

Cleaner Packaging Brigade

Pumps and caps, Triggers, Pouches, Flexible cleaner product packaging.

Personal Care and Beauty Brigade

Hair care packaging such as shampoo bottles and caps, conditioner bottles and caps, hair gel tubes and caps, hair spray bottles and triggers, and hair paste plastic jars and caps

Skin care packaging such as lip balm tubes, face soap dispensers and tubes, face lotion bottles, tubes and plastic jars, body wash containers, soap tubes and dispensers, body lotion dispensers and bottles, shaving foam tubes (no cans), and hand lotion bottles and tubes

Cosmetics packaging such as lipstick cases, lip gloss tubes, mascara tubes, eye shadow cases, bronzer cases, foundation packaging and bottles, powder cases, eyeliner cases, eyeliner pencils, eye shadow tubes, concealer tubes, concealer sticks, and lip liner pencils.

Cheese Packaging Brigade

Large flexible cheese packaging, such as shredded cheese packaging, string cheese packaging, individual slices outer packaging, solid cheese block packaging, Kraft Fresh Takes packaging, deli-style sliced cheese packaging and other large cheese packaging

Individual cheese packaging such as individual slices packaging, individual string cheese packaging, and other individual cheese packaging, Foil cheese packaging.

Entenmann's Little Bites Pouch Brigade**Brita Brigade**

All Brita filters and Water Containers.



SHOWTIME!



EGG HUNT

EASTER!

This Easter, we reprised our Velveteen Rabbit play.
Thank you to all participants for a wonderful experience!

After service, the children searched the grounds for eggs, too!