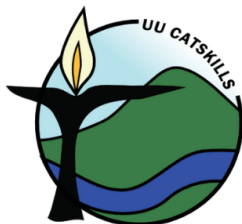


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Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Catskills

Whoever you are, Whomever you love, Wherever you are
in your life's journey, YOU are Welcome Here.

[www.https://www.uucatskills.org/](https://www.uucatskills.org/)



SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE MINISTER

Our monthly theme for September is belonging. Who – or what – do you belong to? Whose are you? We are a commitment-making people. We commit to our families, our communities, to causes that may take generations to come about. Sometimes, our commitment wanes. Sometimes it doesn't. But regularly, in order for life to have meaning, we must decide to whom, and/or to what values, we will devote our precious time and energy.

We all belong to something larger than we are. Maybe it's the earth, or the human race. We might feel a belonging to God, or to a certain way of life. We might simply feel connected to our family and friends. Whatever it is, even in the midst of difficulties, we belong.

-Rev Bob Janis- Dillon

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SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Join us every Sunday at 10:30am.

September 11 - The Water Remembers (In-person & Zoom)

September 18 - Trust shared service with UU Poughkeepsie (In-person & Zoom)

September 25 - Books are Dangerous! Should They be Banned? (Zoom only)

For more information please visit the Worship Service page on our website.

SEPTEMBER HALF-PLATE DONATIONS GO TO
SUSTAINABLE HUDSON VALLEY
[HTTPS://SUSTAINHV.ORG](https://sustainhv.org)



USE QR CODE TO COMPLETE YOUR DONATION.

FROM THE UU BOARD

At Summer's end, regularity returns to congregational life, yet change surrounds us. Blue Jean Sundays have returned to beautify our buildings and grounds. We have installed the video equipment necessary to stream our worship services (with improved lighting still to come). We are initiating new modes of communication to streamline and disseminate information in more efficient ways. We are moving our admin office into the Sanctuary next to Reverend Bob's office, placing all UUC functions under one roof—a central goal of the Building Task Force derailed due to Covid. We are moving toward a ministerial search and leadership transition. And we still have several committees to fill: Fundraising, Pledge, Rentals and Leadership Development. Opportunities abound to get involved and contribute to the life of our congregation. Check the weekly updates and UUC website, or contact the UUC Board or your Community Circle leader, for more information.

-Mark S. Howenstien
UUCatskill President

All Congregation Read Starts Now!

The Board of Trustees has determined that the first step in our 8th Principle work is to read and discuss the 2022 UUA Common Read, *Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism* by Jones and Lin. This book offers a grounding in what it means to be a UU, provides a short overview of our past dreams and failures with regard to the promise of inclusivity, and shares stories/lessons/discoveries from five congregations who navigated the work of adopting the 8th Principle. Go to the UUA Book Store or Amazon for \$22 hardcover, or Kindle version for \$9.00 on Amazon. Check your library and used sellers as well. We need everyone's participation in this important work. UUCatskills will purchase books for those needing financial assistance. Please let the office know by September 16th if this is you.

We want to thank you for your patience as we update our communication process. Going forward there won't be a Friday email and Order of Service for Sunday Services can be found on our website.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Sunday, September 11 at 12pm - Blue Jean Sunday
Sunday, September 11 at 3pm - Ukraine Benefit (In-person)
Monday, September 12 at 6:30pm - Key of Q Auditions
Tuesday, September 13 at 5pm - Anti-Racism Task Force Meets (Zoom)
Tuesday, September 13 at 6:30pm - Key of Q Auditions
Saturday, September 17 at 12pm - Thirty Plus Group (In-person at Trevor Zoo)
Sunday, September 18 at 12pm - Encanto Festival
Tuesday, September 27 at 7pm - Tuesday Night Great Books (Zoom)
Tuesday, September 27 at 7pm - Women's Group (Zoom)
Wednesday, September 28 at 7pm - Green the Grid & Electrify Everything
Presentation (Zoom)
Thursday, September 29 at 10am - Board of Trustees Meeting

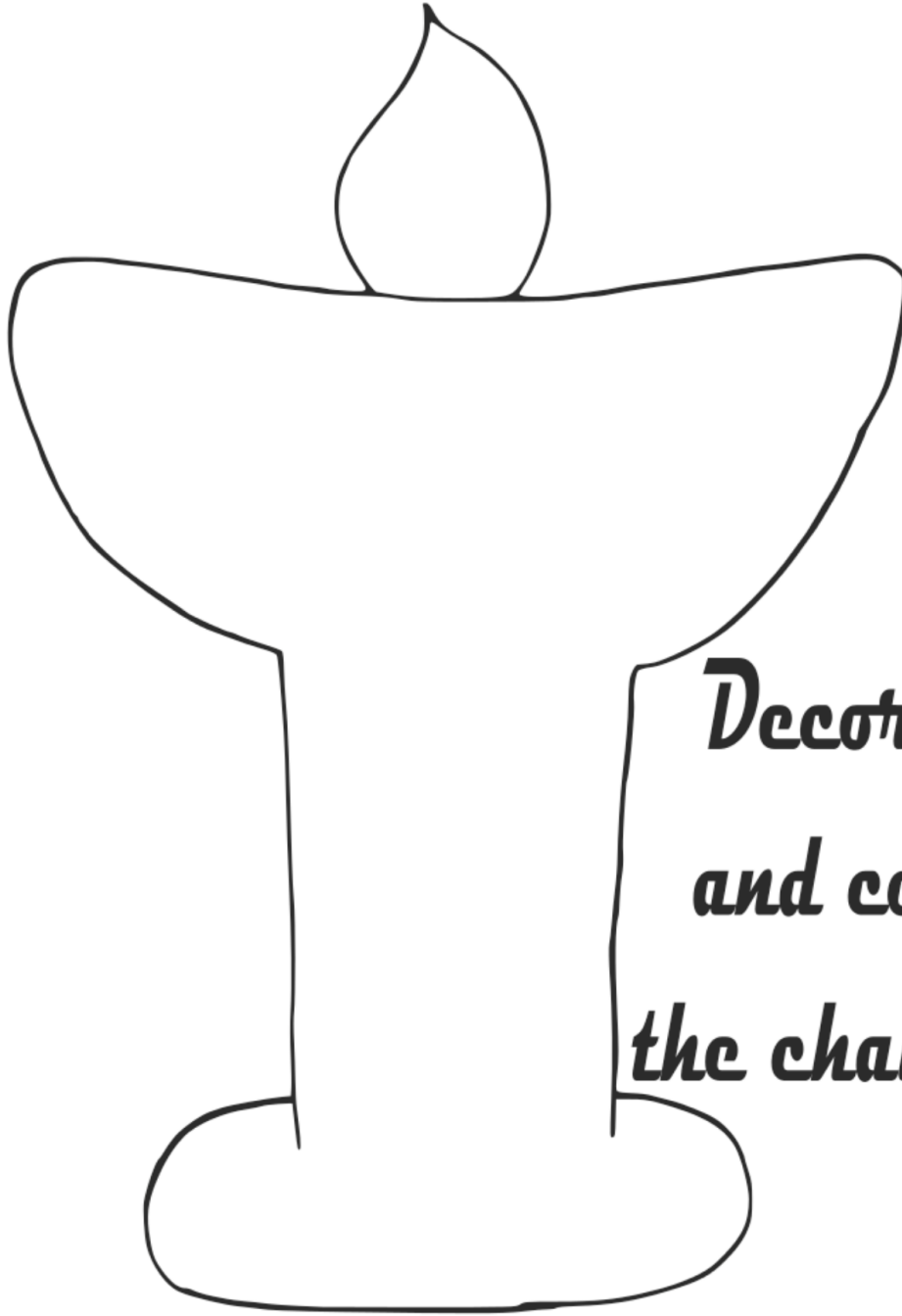
Reoccurring Events

Every Sunday at 7pm - Grief Support Group (Zoom)
First Saturday at 11am - Buddhacats Affinity Group (In-person)
First Saturday at 7pm - Folk Guild (In-person)
First Thursday at 11am - Hangout with Rev. Bob (In-person & Zoom)
First Thursday at 7pm - Spoken Word (In-person)
Third Monday at 11am - Buddhacats Affinity Group (Zoom)
Last Tuesday at 7pm - Women's Group (Zoom)
Last Tuesday at 7pm - Tuesday Night Great Books (Zoom))
Every Thursday at 7pm - Bedtime Story and More! (Zoom)

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*Decorate
and color
the chalice*

COMMITTEE UPDATES

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

"Encanto" is a tender and colorful ode to the magic of family and community healing. The Encanto Festival is set for Sunday, September 18th ~ 12:00pm. Join us and try the Madrigals' magical powers. You might discover that true magic lies in the relationships we foster within our community. Encanto teaches us that a caring community can move seemingly unsurmountable mountains. Let's do it.

CARING CONNECTIONS

Connect with your local UUC members and friends! Email caring@uucatskills.org if you want to be connected. And check your email for updates about circle meetings and topics from your circle coordinator.

SOCIAL ACTION

From the Climate Action Team - Join us for "Green the Grid & Electrify Everything" presentation Wednesday, Sept 28 at 7pm via Zoom. Environmental Steward opportunity : Stop using soap from plastic containers. Purchase natural bar soap from local merchants.

From Anti-Racism Task Force - On September 13th we will discuss the suggestions, presented by July's African-American guests, for expanding reach and putting our faith in action. All are welcome.

SOCIAL ACTION

From LGBTQIA+ Working Group - Starting this month, Vickie O'Dougherty will continue from our past work for LGBTQ justice and expand our understanding of today's landscape with regard to LGBTQIA+ justice. This new group is looking for individuals who do and do not identify as LGBTQIA to work together in identifying and fighting oppression.

From Food Justice Working Group - Current needs: Sponsors for shoppers, egg cartons for Lois Slade, and all kinds of shopping bags.

From UUCC Reproductive Freedom Task Force - The Guttmacher Institute is tracking state legislation related to abortion rights. NY has passed and signed into law four pieces of legislation to protect abortion rights and abortion providers. Visit our page to see all of the legislation that has been passed since the Dobbs decision.

From UIDN - Thank you to all who contributed to the UIDN children's school supply collection, it was a great success!

Want more information about a Social Action? Please check out the Social Action page on the UUCatskills website.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

Key of Q, the LGBTQ+ and allied a cappella singers of the Hudson Valley, is holding auditions for its 2022/2023 season on Monday, September 12th and Tuesday, September 13th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 320 Sawkill Road, Kingston. Pre-registration is required. More information about Key of Q, including the audition registration form, can be found at keyofq.org.

Tuesday Night Great Books - Come experience the great books of different sacred and philosophical traditions. Led by Rev. Bob, we'll explore a few short passages from some of the world's best-known sacred texts. No advance reading is required. No prior knowledge is assumed; we will just read the text aloud and talk about it. Skepticism and scrutiny are welcome. We'll look at the texts rationally, emotionally, spiritually, theologically and from the standpoint of literature. This month's book will be Ecclesiastes (Hebrew Bible).

"Soul Matters" groups are an opportunity to be a part of a monthly group that explores their own lives through deep sharing and connection. Rev. Bob and Vickie O' Dougherty will be facilitating the group(s). For more information or to register your interest, contact Rev. Bob at minister@uucatskills.org or (845) 853-0063. Groups will begin when we have enough people signed up to start one. Thanks!

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The September Blue Jean Sunday will be September 11. Please join our dedicated team working to enhance the beauty of our Sanctuary. We meet 12 noon - 12:30 pm at the Sanctuary. Lunch will be provided. Please email wlindsay1121@gmail.com if you can volunteer.

The Social Action Committees are comprised of 7 working groups/teams/task forces: Anti-Racism Task Force, Climate Action Team, Food Justice Working Group, LGBTQIA+ Working Group, Ulster Immigrant Defense Network Team, Voting Rights Team, and Women's Reproductive Task Force.

WANT TO JOIN A SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE? PLEASE CHECK OUT THEIR INDIVIDUAL PAGES ON THE UUCATSKILLS WEBSITE FOR CONTACT INFORMATION.

CONTACT INFORMATION

UUC Minister - Rev. Bob Janis-Dillon minister@uucatskills.org
 UUC Office Administrator - Laurie Nash uuccoffice@gmail.com
 Director of Religious Exploration - Jane Podell RE@uucatskills.org
 Music Director - Catherine Cattabiani geoliot7@gmail.com

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