



## Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Catskills

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

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# NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE MINISTER

Sometimes I wonder if Election Tuesday – and Wednesday, the day after – should be a two-day holiday in the USA. Not because it's a festive time: millions of Americans, on both sides of the political spectrum, found their stomach in knots the first November Tuesday of 2000, or 2016, or 2020. It could be an election because there is just so much at stake, every year. How could someone handle ordinary working when the whole world is up in the air?

November's theme is "change." The world is changing all the time. Leadership quote Finn Jackson helpfully delineates between change and transition. Changes happen out in the world. They can happen very quickly and, sometimes, without warning – finishing a work project, a change in relationship, an election. Transition is how we adjust to that change inwardly, if we choose to. Transitions can take a long time.

Here at the congregation, we have had a lot of changes in the past five years: different ministers and staff; various projects we took on, and ended; the changes in worship wrought by the pandemic; changes wrought by the ongoing national decline in religious involvement; new opportunities for justice work; new partnerships with other organizations. The changes happen all the time – meanwhile, the transitions happen within us, at their own pace. It takes us a while to adjust to a new world.

I can pretty much guarantee you that things will never go back to the way they used to be. And I know that's hard – believe me, I do. We can't control every change that happens in life. But we can reflect deeply on how we want to transition. Think of the values that are most important to you in your life right now. Peace, justice, kindness, beauty, truth, right relationship, balance and ecology, living in a loving way: the outside world will change, there will still be a need of all of these. And there will still be an opportunity to live them out, though the opportunities may change over time. Perhaps transition is a way of staying true to what is most important.

Blessings,  
Rev Bob Janis- Dillon

# SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Join us every Sunday at 10:30am.

November 6: Honoring National Native American Heritage Month (Zoom)

November 13: In praise of Shiva (In-person & Zoom)\*\*

November 20: Welcoming Change, Enduring Gratitude (In-person & Zoom)\*\*

November 27: Worker Justice (Zoom)

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

\*\*This service includes Religious Exploration for children\*\*

NOVEMBER HALF PLATE RECIPIENT IS  
WORKER JUSTICE CENTER OF ULSTER COUNTY  
[HTTPS://WWW.WJCN.Y.ORG/](https://www.wjcnny.org/)



USE QR CODE TO COMPLETE YOUR DONATION.

## FROM THE UU BOARD

As color and warmth wanes from our world, we settle in for the cold darkness of winter. The nesting time has come. Here at UU Catskills, we are laying the groundwork for our impending ministerial search, our ongoing communications revisions, our gradual reopening to a post-Covid world and the various leadership transitions that will occur throughout the Spring and Summer.

The Ministerial Search Committee has been established, comprised of members with a wealth of experience and insight into our ministerial needs: Kathy Eberlein (chair), Jerelynn Mason, Rob Becker, Lydia McCaw and Karen Howenstein. We continue to revise our communications platform with a design toward efficiency and clarity, as well as access for all (still in need of attention). We are opening our doors to ever more events and services, and we are planning ahead for the leadership transitions that lie on our horizon.

Change marches on and we with it as best as possible. With faith and perseverance we will overcome these challenges to flower in the spring.

-Mark S. Howenstein  
UU Catskills President

# NOVEMBER EVENTS

November 2 at 5pm: Writing Group Small Group Ministry (Zoom)  
November 3 at 11am: Rev Bob's First Thursday Hangout (In-person & Zoom)  
November 3 at 7pm: Spoken Word (In-person)  
November 5 at 11am: Buddhacats Affinity Group (In-person)  
November 5 at 7pm: Kingston's Hudson Valley Folk Guild (In-person)  
November 10 at 7pm: Bedtime Story and More! (Zoom)  
November 13 at 11:30am: Kids Playtime (In-person)  
November 13 at 12pm: Blue Jean Sunday (In-person)  
November 15 at 5pm: Climate Action Team (Zoom)  
November 17 at 10am: Board of Trustees Meeting  
November 17 at 6pm: Common Read (In-person)  
November 17 at 7pm: Bedtime Story and More! (Zoom)  
November 21 at 5pm: Buddhacats Affinity Group (Zoom)  
November 24 at 7pm: Bedtime Story and More! (Zoom)  
November 29 at 7pm: Tuesday Night Great Books- Meditations, Marcus Aurelius (Zoom)  
November 29 at 7:30pm: UU Catskills Women's Group (Zoom)  
December 11 at 1pm: Key of Q and UU Catskills Benefit Concert (In-person)

## Recurring Events

Every Sunday at 7pm - Grief Support Group (Zoom)  
Every Thursday at 7pm - Bedtime Story and More! (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 5pm - Buddhacats Affinity Group (Zoom)  
Third Tuesday at 5pm - Climate Action Team (Zoom)  
Last Tuesday at 7:30pm - Women's Group (Zoom)  
Last Tuesday at 7pm - Tuesday Night Great Books (Zoom)

[Check Out All Events](#)

FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES - COLOR THE CHALICE



## COMMITTEE UPDATES

### RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

JANE PODELL, DIRECTOR OF R.E.

What paths must we lean into as we travel together into our complex, challenging and hoped for future? This month, we will explore the challenges and paths of “Change.”

Nov 6: No R.E. ~ Zoom service only

Nov 13: R.E. ~ Changing Our World: We'll hear from Presidential Inaugural Poet Amanda Gorman as we explore the path of changing our world for the better  
Kids' pizza lunch & playtime with R.E. Director Jane:  
Immediately following service: 11:30am – 1:00pm

Nov 20: R.E. ~ Changing the way we think about Thanksgiving: We will honor wisdom from Native Heritages and learn how we can change our relationship to the earth.

Nov 27: No R.E. ~ Zoom service only

## ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE

DONNA SCHLACHMAN

The ARTF will be taking a hiatus from monthly meetings while the congregation does the work needed in considering the Proposed 8th Principle. Whether you are reading the book Mistakes and Miracles or not, please attend the discussion meetings and other opportunities that lay ahead. Our future as a congregation may be shaped by the 8th Principle work we are invited to do. Individual anti-racism engagement has no end. Please consider joining with groups doing this work your community .

## CLIMATE ACTION TEAM

KATHY KASSNER

Thanks to those who participated in our October rallies for climate justice. Learn how CHPE threatens the Hudson's water quality in this article by Lee Gough  
<https://therivernewsroom.com/chpe-not-the-green-energy-we-want/> Vote for the planet!

## FOOD JUSTICE WORKING GROUP

KAREN MILLER

There is an ongoing need: for sponsors for the Working Group's Shopper, egg cartons for Lois Slade, nonperishable food items brought to the box in Sanctuary Hallway, and food that needs refrigeration directly to The Community Fridge at 122 Clinton Ave (open 8a-8p) or 97 Broadway (open 24 hours). [uucatskills.org/food-justice](http://uucatskills.org/food-justice)  
Contact Karen at [kamiller49@gmail.com](mailto:kamiller49@gmail.com).

## LGBTQIA+ WORKING GROUP

DONNA SCHLACHMAN

YOU are needed! We are looking for a person to monitor and share LGBTQIA+ news and events via updates and Newsletters. This is an "information and opportunities" person to help us stay current with LGBTQIA+ justice developments and be positioned to respond. You need NOT be a member of the LGBTQIA+ community to fill this role for UUCatskills.

## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

DONNA SCHLACHMAN

Our quarterly meeting was held on Oct 25th. Our Task Forces and Working Groups provided updates and mutual issues were discussed. In recognition of the intersectionality of our work, and bring more congregants to active participation in justice work, the SAC will be considering proposals for all-hands justice actions this Spring. Our next meeting is in January. Look for details in December.



## THE PROPOSED 8TH PRINCIPLE

DONNA SCHLACHMAN

10 UUCatskills members and friends joined with facilitator Rev. Bob for the first of 3 planned discussions for the UUA Common Read Mistakes and Miracles. If you do not have the book and need assistance with the purchase, please let Rev. Bob know. It is available at book outlets. All are welcome to participate in the conversation without having read the book. We will be discussing Chapters 3, 4 and 5 at the next meeting on November 17 at 6 pm in the Sanctuary.

## ULSTER IMMIGRANT DEFENSE FUND

KATHRYN EBERLEIN

There is a continual need for laundry products, cleaning products, and personal care items for Adults, Teens, Youth and Infants. There is a drop off box in the Sanctuary hallway. Know your contributions are deeply appreciated.

## OUR COMMUNITY

### KIDS PLAYTIME

Nov 13th - Kids pizza lunch & playtime with our RE Director, Jane. Directly following service: 11:30 am to 1 pm  
As the holidays approach this becomes a busy time of year for all. So we are offering families with children a well deserved break directly after Sunday service on Nov 13th. So whether you want to run errands or go for a walk, or even join your children for the fun, your children are welcome to stay on in the farmhouse directly after RE on Sunday, Nov 13th. Children will enjoy a pizza lunch and a craft & playtime with our RE Director, Jane Podell. To register, please contact [JanepodellUU@gmail.com](mailto:JanepodellUU@gmail.com)

### KEY OF Q CONCERT: THE SNOW MUST GO ON! SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 11 AT 1PM

Please join Key of Q, the Hudson Valley's LGBTQ+ & Allied a Cappella Chorus, for our 2022 winter concert, The Snow Must Go On! We are celebrating our return to community after almost three long years of hibernation, and we would love for you to come share in the music and merriment!

When: Sunday, December 11th at 1pm

Where: UU Catskills, 320 Sawkill Road, Kingston, NY

Suggested donation: \$10-\$20, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds (Proceeds to benefit Key of Q and UU Catskills)

## CARING CONNECTIONS

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

Member Constance Rudd is recuperating at Golden Hill Rehab Center in Kingston after surgery after a fall. While she wishes she could go back home right away, she realizes that she may be there a while to allow for the help she needs to heal. Her room phone is 845-943-6373.

Her husband Doug may also appreciate a check in at home at 149 Main Street, Kingston. You can reach Doug at [douglaskoop@aol.com](mailto:douglaskoop@aol.com) or (845)399-9945

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The November Blue Jean Sunday will be November 13. Please join our dedicated team working to enhance the beauty of our Sanctuary. We meet noon - 4pm at the Sanctuary. Lunch will be provided. Please email [wlindsay1121@gmail.com](mailto:wlindsay1121@gmail.com) if you can volunteer.

## COVID 19 VACCINE UPDATE

The updated COVID-19 Bivalent Booster for children ages 5-11 years will be available, beginning Sat. 10/29/22 at the Hudson Valley Mall /former Best Buy Point of Dispensing -POD- location, from 11 am - 2 pm. Other varieties of the COVID-19 vaccines are also offered at that location. PODs continue to be conducted Saturdays, with the exception of Saturday Nov. 12 and 26, due to the Veterans and Thanksgiving Day holidays.

To pre- register your vaccine appointment, visit [VaccinateUlster.com](http://VaccinateUlster.com). Walk-ins are welcome. Call 845-443-8888 for assistance.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**UUC Minister - Rev. Bob Janis-Dillon** [minister@uucatskills.org](mailto:minister@uucatskills.org)  
**UUC Office Administrator - Laurie Nash** [uuccoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uuccoffice@gmail.com)  
**Director of Religious Exploration - Jane Podell** [RE@uucatskills.org](mailto:RE@uucatskills.org)  
**Music Director - Catherine Cattabiani** [geeliot7@gmail.com](mailto:geeliot7@gmail.com)

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