



# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PRINCETON

## Skylights newsletter



### Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

**Sundays: One Service Only at 10:30, Live in Channing and Live-streamed on Zoom.**  
Please see Page 2, and keep an eye on your email, as well as [www.uuprinceton.org](http://www.uuprinceton.org) for updates.

#### June 2, *Flower Power!*

Bring a flower to share during the service as we celebrate Flower Communion, one of our most meaningful and uplifting UU rituals. Our Annual Meeting follows the service, and then our Spring Picnic follows that. All are welcome for a day of spirit and celebration!

**Worship Leaders: Revs. Bill Neely and Jennifer Kelleher**    **Worship Associate: Isabela Morales**  
**Music: UU Princeton Chamber Choir; Sue den Outer, Pianist**

#### June 9, *Queer Joy*

As Unitarian Universalists, we tend to be attracted to the concrete, the how, the here in front of us. The past few decades of LGBTQ+ activism have achieved much in that area: marriage rights, child custody law, hospital visitation. But what about the ineffable, the qualitative, the joyous? Poet Toi Derricotte put it the most succinctly: "Joy is an act of resistance." Join the Rainbow Ministry as in celebrating Pride Month 2024 through music, meditation and reflections. In a world where many would like to hide LGBTQ+ light back under a bushel, how can UU principles make ours and other congregations places for queer joy?

**Worship Leader: Rainbow Ministry**    **Worship Associate: Judy Vee**  
**Music: Marjorie Herman, UU Princeton Chamber Choir; Sue den Outer, Pianist**

#### June 16, *Actively At Rest*

Practicing Sabbath is an ancient commandment that is easily overlooked ... until we end up exhausted, angry, burned out, and disillusioned. How can we remember to rest so that we don't end up in those states? How can we, as the ancient ones instructed us, be active in observing our Sabbaths?

**Worship Leaders: Rev. Bill Neely**    **Worship Associate: Courtney Orlando**  
**Music: Marjorie Herman; Sue den Outer, Pianist**

#### June 23, *Being Right in the Wrong Way*

"Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and right doing, there is a field. I'll meet you there," promises the Sufi poet Rumi. This mystical place is one in which we blend together in shared lives, even though we are different. How can we meet others in that peaceful, beloved field, wherever we are?

**Worship Leader: Rev. Bill Neely**    **Worship Associate: Jeanee DeVoe**  
**Music: Marjorie Herman; Sue den Outer, Pianist**

#### June 30, *Through the Dark Night*

The "dark night of the soul" is a term used to describe a particularly painful period of isolation and meaninglessness. It's when we feel so disconnected from beauty and purpose that we can't find a way to revitalize our lives. It's an exhausting, despairing, and common experience. In this service, we'll learn from ancient and modern wisdom on how to get through the dark night.

**Worship Leader: Rev. Bill Neely**    **Worship Associate: TBA**  
**Music: Marjorie Herman; Jeffrey Fadden, Guitarist;**

## The Good News

### Reverend Bill Neely

I love those moments when people who are posing for a picture lean in closer to each other. Couples well on in their years, newlyweds on their big day, friends celebrating someone's birthday, a couple of kids posing with a popsicle. Once that camera faces them, they lean into each other. They smile and snuggle a bit. Maybe even put their arms around each other. They flash a big, happy grin.

And when that's us, we're left with an image on our phone or a print we tuck away. We stumble across it every once in a while, sometimes less often as years pass. But even though eventually every photo is never viewed again, they move us when we do see them. Even faded, a smile crosses our lips as a memory brings warmth. We look at who we were and know that we chose to spend time with someone important to us. With all of our options in our busy, too quick lives, for a snap, at least, we opted for one another.

That's what makes that space sacred and those moments holy. They are glimpses of a beauty and joy that we can only find with one another. They're blessings built by circumstance and commitment; by people finding themselves in one another's lives, and then building relationships and memories that keep them there. They're gifts of life, joy, and memory created by leaning in when the camera faces us, and leaning in even more when it doesn't.

## Meeting with the Ministers

Rev. Bill and/or Rev. Jennifer are happy to meet with you individually at church, for lunch, over coffee, etc., at a time that works for everyone.

Please email either of them to make an appointment.

[bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org)

[jennifer@uuprinceton.org](mailto:jennifer@uuprinceton.org)

In the event of emergencies needing the attention of a minister, please contact Rev. Bill by phone or email first. If necessary, then contact Lauren Foss, President of the Board of Trustees, at

[president@uuprinceton.org](mailto:president@uuprinceton.org)

## For Our Newcomers

The Mission of the UU Princeton Membership Ministry is that *all who enter feel welcome, known, and loved. Newcomers experience personal and congregational connections that lead them to become committed UUs and members of our congregation.*

**If you have any questions about our events, membership or our congregation, please email us at [office@uuprinceton.org](mailto:office@uuprinceton.org). We look forward to getting to know you better.**

## Our Eight Principles of Unitarian Universalism

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.
- Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse, multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

## Signing the Membership Book Ceremony

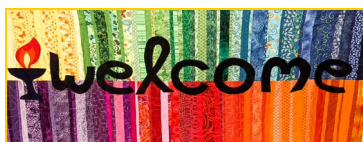
This ceremony of becoming a member is for those who have previously attended "Exploring our Faith" and want to become members of our congregation. Please contact Rev. Bill to arrange a time.

[bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org)

**HATE HAS NO HOME HERE.**

El odio no tiene hogar aquí.

نفرت کے لئے یہاں کوئی گھر نہیں ہے  
الکرہ لیس له بیت هنا



## June Spiritual Theme – Sabbath By Chalice Circle Facilitators

Our Monthly Spiritual Themes guide our Chalice Circles, which are small, intentional groups of members and friends that gather for spiritual enrichment through personal sharing. For more information on Chalice Circles, please email [chalicecircles@uuprinceton.org](mailto:chalicecircles@uuprinceton.org). Our Chalice Circle thoughts and questions around the theme of *Sabbath* this month are:

“We learn to rest by practice, by routine, over time. This is true of our bodies, our minds, and our souls, which are always intertwined.”

— Tish Harrison Warren, Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life

*What seemingly “easy” activities in life have you come to realize are improved with practice? Do you have (or strive for) a practice of rest?*

“Every person needs to take one day away. A day in which one consciously separates the past from the future. Jobs, family, employers, and friends can exist one day without any one of us, and if our egos permit us to confess, they could exist eternally in our absence. Each person deserves a day away in which no problems are confronted, no solutions searched for. Each of us needs to withdraw from the cares which will not withdraw from us.”

— Maya Angelou, Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now

*If you were to disappear temporarily from the responsibilities you feel tied to (work, family, friends, etc), what do you think would be the result? Do you imagine, for you, it would be a positive or negative experience to have separation from your everyday connections?*

“If we do not allow for a rhythm of rest in our overly busy lives, illness becomes our Sabbath - our pneumonia, our cancer, our heart attack, our accidents create Sabbath for us.”

— Wayne Muller, Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in Our Busy Lives

*Have you been through a time when lack of rest affected your health negatively? Were you able to re-establish balance?*

“There is virtue in work and there is virtue in rest. Use both and overlook neither.”

— Alan Cohen

*When you've overlooked one or the other, how did you know?*

### Joys and Sorrows

Pastoral Associates is a group of trained and caring members of the congregation that offers support and assistance to congregants facing difficulties, crises, or life transitions. Rev. Jennifer Kelleher ([jennifer@uuprinceton.org](mailto:jennifer@uuprinceton.org)) is the primary support for Pastoral Associates and our Prayer Circle. You are always welcome to reach out directly to Rev. Jennifer and/or Rev. Bill Neely ([bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org)) for pastoral care and support in times of difficulty and times of celebration.

Ellie Whitney passed away peacefully on April 26, 2024. Her energy, passion for the climate and bright spirit will be deeply missed. We hold her family including her daughter, Lynn Whitney, in our loving embrace during this difficult time.



*This is a congregation of open minds,  
Of helping hands.  
And of loving hearts.  
Together we care for our earth  
And work for friendship and peace in  
the world.*

## Children and Youth Ministry

Rev. Jennifer Kelleher is currently on sabbatical until June 1, 2024. While she is away Patricia Hennigan is serving as our Children & Youth Ministry Sabbatical Coordinator and may be reached at [patricia@uuprinceton.org](mailto:patricia@uuprinceton.org). Ministry questions outside of Children & Youth programming may be directed to Rev. Bill Neely.

### Sunday Morning Summer Plans

In May we completed programming in different classes by age range. In June, July and August -- depending on volunteer support -- we hold all ages activities and lessons two (2) Sundays each month. We are looking for volunteers to lead crafts, games, music, share a hobby, a science project or other creative activities that bring you joy. Adults, Youth and Children are invited to lead an activity and/or co-lead with their grown-ups' support. Please reach out to [jennifer@uuprinceton.org](mailto:jennifer@uuprinceton.org) - AFTER JUNE 1 - if you are able to share the gift of your care and mentorship with our children.

### **June's Children and Youth Schedule**

You can find our full 2023-2024 program schedule here:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/16B93ZDbb33JM1HUS239iUoD2\\_vfYbQt--CTSdr2vxCA/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/16B93ZDbb33JM1HUS239iUoD2_vfYbQt--CTSdr2vxCA/edit?usp=sharing)

June 2024	
Sunday, June 2	Flower Communion all ages worship service
Sunday, June 9	<b>All ages hike on Mountain Lakes trails after Wonder &amp; Wisdom in Worship.</b>
Sunday, June 16	All welcome in worship.
Sunday, June 23	<b>Honoring Our Bridging High School Graduates in our worship service. Followed by an all ages activity.</b>
Sunday, June 30	All welcome in worship.

### **Join Us for Our Sunday Morning Programming!**

You can learn more about our wide array of our activities on our website under Children's Faith Development: [Children & Youth Ministry Programs for 2023-2024 - Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton](#)

Registration is FREE (and required) and may be completed through this form: <https://forms.gle/UUbEDtKagkyu2Ls98>

### **Volunteer Opportunities in Children & Youth**

**Class assistants are needed throughout the year in our *Pre-K-Kindergarten classes*.**

Go to [uuprinceton.org](http://uuprinceton.org) and click on Sign-Up Genius to find a date that works best for you.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0945A8A629A46-44703052-children#/>



**UU HISTORY- The early days of our country's formation** - by Carl H. Haag**CHAPTER 3 - Part A****OUR FATHERS WHO ART IN POLITICS**

Several of the Founding Fathers of our country were Unitarians or Universalists, or were in close contact with these faiths. Two of these men were Unitarians, signed the Declaration of Independence, had a strong friendship, became enemies, reconciled and exchanged correspondence that is now famous, were United States presidents, and died on the same day: July 4, 1826, exactly 50 years after the Declaration of Independence was adopted. The lives of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were exceptional, as was that of Benjamin Franklin.

In his late thirties, on January 3, 1773, John Adams (b. 1735) became a member of the Unitarian United First Parish Church of Quincy, Massachusetts. His remarkable wife, Abigail Adams (b. 1744), was also a Unitarian, as was their son, John Quincy Adams, and others in the illustrious family they began. Abigail was a strong advocate for women's rights and equal education for girls and for African Americans.

In a letter to John Adams in 1774, Abigail Adams wrote: "I long to hear that you have declared an independency. And in the new code of laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make . . . if particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation."

John Adams became a lawyer upon graduating from Harvard in 1755. Almost immediately he became a leader in the patriotic groups that opposed English regulations such as the Stamp Act. Sent to both the First and Second Continental Congresses, where he distinguished himself, it was Adams who proposed George Washington as Commander and Chief of the Continental troops, as a way to tie Virginia to the cause.

John Adams was one of the negotiators who in 1782 drew up the Treaty of Paris that ended the American Revolution. He returned to America and served as vice president during Washington's term of office. In 1796, during a time of considerable turmoil, Adams succeeded Washington, becoming the second president. Adam's integrity helped him deal with tensions with the Federalists, such as Alexander Hamilton and Vice President Thomas Jefferson, and he was able to keep the peace with England and avoid war with France.

At the conclusion of his term, John Adams, with Hamilton, was swept from office in 1800. The vote was clear, but there was a problem. It turned out that Aaron Burr and Thomas Jefferson were tied for the presidency. Hamilton decided that Jefferson was the lesser evil and used his influence in the House of Representatives to make Jefferson president and Burr vice president. (The resulting bad blood between Burr and Hamilton led to their duel in New Jersey in 1804 and Hamilton's death.)

The relationship between Adams and Jefferson had become so strained because of the political tensions between them that they had not spoken or written for a dozen years. Finally, Adams sent a letter to Jefferson, and the two men restored their earlier friendship, beginning what has been called the "greatest correspondence between American public figures." On the day that Adams died, Independence Day in 1826, the last words he uttered were: "Thomas Jefferson lives." He did not know that Jefferson had died earlier that day.

To be continued...

## Gracenotes

### **These Bells Have Kept Ringing**

Thanks to the care and generosity of so many in our congregation, We had a great fundraising campaign for our wonderful Bell Choir. On May 19, when we were treated to a complete recital by the Bell Ringers. This event attracted other musicians from our Musical Circle, such as recorder, violin, and our own Adult Choir.

The bells are now on their way to be refurbished, and will return to us in the Fall as good as new.

### **Another Special Musical Event**

On **May 26**, the Music Ministry will present a meditative program using a variety of “World Instruments.” The program is called:

#### **“Munalome Music Meditation”**

and will feature a treasure trove of instruments used in spiritual rituals of all kinds. The goal for those attending will be to sit back, relax, and be cradled by this meditative experience. Created by Tom Reisher and Marcus Chaney, it will include Tibetan Crystal (or Singing) Bowls, Didgeridoo, Guitar, Udu, and Native American Flute. Attendance is free.

### **A Bittersweet Farewell**

After 19 years as Director of Music here at UU Princeton, I feel that the time has come for me to take my leave of this life-changing position. There are several factors at work here, but the most central is that in October I will celebrate my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, and finally I’m feeling the effects of getting older. While I’m still healthy, these strains are beginning to make my work here more difficult, and I’d rather leave while we all can still enjoy the fruits of this work for almost two decades.

This is not an imminent departure; I will be on board until the end of December 2024. A search for a replacement will be starting soon, and I know that it will bring a superior musician to carry on the high level of musical and inspirational participation that we’ve all come to enjoy. Many thanks to so many of you who have guided me on the most satisfying musical journey of my life.

Most gratefully yours,  
Marjorie Herman,  
Director of Music, UU Princeton

### **Music Ministry Mission Statement**

To provide, through the power of music, a dynamic ministry that will inspire transcendent personal experiences, draw the congregation into greater kinship, and bring



## Adult Faith Development & Fellowship

### **S**hort Story Hour

Join Rev. Bill for the reading and discussion of a short story! All are welcome as we engage the spiritual themes of a short work of fiction. The program will be offered on Zoom on Friday, June 21 at 12 noon. Keep an eye on your email for the Zoom link. No sign-up needed.

### **E**xploring Our Faith

Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism (UU) and UU Princeton? Attend *Exploring Our Faith*, an interactive 60-minute discussion with Rev. Bill Neely. We’ll talk about UU beliefs and history, our congregation and people, and the meaning of membership. All are welcome! Our next *Exploring Our Faith* will be on Sunday, June 23 from 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., in-person at UU Princeton. No sign-up needed

### **B**uddhist Meditation Group

UU Princeton's Buddhist meditation group meets every Sunday from 9:30 - 10:25 in Fahs Theater and on Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:15 pm on Zoom.

Whether you are a beginning or experienced meditator, all are welcome! Please contact Michele Ochsner ([michele.ochsner@gmail.com](mailto:michele.ochsner@gmail.com)) to receive weekly email reminders and Zoom link

### **Z**en Meditation Practice and Talks

All are welcome to discuss and practice Zen Meditation on the Fourth Sunday of every month from 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. The practice consists of chanting the heart sutra and 25 minutes of seated meditation followed by a Dharma talk and discussion. Contact Steve Valerio ([sgvalerio312@gmail.com](mailto:sgvalerio312@gmail.com)) for more info.

### **U**U Princeton Book Discussion Group

We will meet again in September. All are welcome to send suggestions for the five book discussions during 2024-2025. We read both fiction and nonfiction. Email suggestions by June 15 to Peggy Matthews, [peggy.matthews@gmail.com](mailto:peggy.matthews@gmail.com).

### **Y**oung Adult Groups (ages 18-27 and 28-40)

Interested in meeting other young adults within the UU

(Continued from page 6)

Princeton community?

Come to Young Adult Sundays, at least once a month! Emma Moore ([emoore42@gmail.com](mailto:emoore42@gmail.com)), Irene Donne ([irene.donne@gmail.com](mailto:irene.donne@gmail.com)) and others are working on developing connections for fellowship, activism, and fun! Email the two of us any time, or come introduce yourself after Sunday service. Join the email list-serv to get each month's date and keep connected for other events.

## **C**UUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) Evergreen Chapter meets monthly and quarterly.

For more information about CUUPS events, please reach out to Herb Foster at [herb\\_foster@yahoo.com](mailto:herb_foster@yahoo.com) to join the Evergreen CUUPS mailing list, or to Jennifer Santos at [jsantoscnm@verizon.net](mailto:jsantoscnm@verizon.net) or Kate Foster, Co-Convenors, with questions

On June 21st, the Evergreen Chapter of CUUPS will offer you a two for one! Meeting at 7pm to ground and casting the circle at 7:30, we will observe both the Summer Solstice - the height of the sun's power - and the Full Strawberry Moon! Feel free to bring a strawberry snack, or anything to share (or just something for yourself - our strong recommendation after being in circle is to eat something before traveling home!). We have plans to be in Channing Hall, but when the weather is fine we can frequently be found outdoors near the Memorial Garden. If you have any questions please reach out to Jennifer at [jsantoscnm@verizon.net](mailto:jsantoscnm@verizon.net), or Kate, [subligaria8@gmail.com](mailto:subligaria8@gmail.com)

## **P**rincedon Eats Plants

The Princeton Eats Plants potluck group is a vibrant UU Princeton community that meets monthly to enjoy and promote plant-based living with unique plant-based potluck gatherings. Join individuals who share a passion for sustainable eating and cruelty-free living. This group creates a welcoming space where people come together to enjoy delicious, plant-powered dishes and great conversation. The potlucks not only showcase the diversity and creativity of plant-based cuisine but also serve as a platform for exchanging recipes, sharing personal journeys towards a plant-based lifestyle, and fostering connections and events. Whether you're a seasoned plant-based enthusiast or just curious about incorporating more plants into your diet, the Princeton Eats Plants group offers a supportive environment for individuals to come together. Join us on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Founder's Room. For more information, please contact Vicky Campbell, JoEllen or John Burton.

Meet Up group: <https://www.meetup.com/princeton-eats-plants/>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2428735040700564>

## **W**omen's Alliance

### About Women's Alliance

The Women's Alliance promotes friendship and kindness, inspires learning and serves the congregation and greater community. We organize monthly lunches with timely programs of general interest, assist bereaved families with receptions following memorial services and raise funds to support organizations that serve women and children. Anyone who supports what we do and wishes to participate in our activities may become a member of the Women's Alliance upon payment of \$10 in annual dues. To be placed on our e-mail list for information about the monthly lunches and other activities, to obtain more information about Women's Alliance or to become a member please contact Lisa Roche, President at 609-403-8148 (landline), 609-933-4194 (text) or [roche-barbiero@gmail.com](mailto:roche-barbiero@gmail.com).

**We suspend our lunches during the months of June, July and August, but wish you all an enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you at our next lunch on September 19th!**

## **FELLOWSHIP NIGHT is back!** **Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM in the FOUNDERS ROOM**

The first Fellowship Game Night was a rousing success, so we're bringing it back for June!

Bring your favorite board or card games and get ready to play!

Spend time with old friends and make new ones!

**PIZZA** will be provided (donations appreciated to help defray the cost)

If you are inclined, please feel free to bring a salad or dessert to share.

Your sign-up in Sign-up Genius will help us know how much pizza to order.

You may also RSVP by email to: Cathy ([cbkoggan@gmail.com](mailto:cbkoggan@gmail.com)).



The Social Justice Council meets to enhance the collaborative work of our various shared social justice ministries (noted below). The SJ ministries assist those in need, educate about injustice, and work towards systemic change to create a more just and beloved society.

Council meetings are held about four times a year with Rev. Bill Neely, and the 2023 Council consists of: Louise Senior, Amanda Gillum, Ray Nichols, and Judy Vee. General requests and inquiries about the Social Justice Council can be sent to [sjcouncil@uuprinceton.org](mailto:sjcouncil@uuprinceton.org). To be connected to specific action groups, please consult the contacts below.

### **Social Justice Ministries (alphabetically):**

**Caring for Our Neighbors** – organizes projects that provide hands on help to address immediate, local, concrete needs (Louise Senior, [caring4neighbors@uuprinceton.org](mailto:caring4neighbors@uuprinceton.org))

**Immigration Task Force** – assists immigrants, refugees and sanctuary-seekers. Michele Ochsner, [sanctuary@uuprinceton.org](mailto:sanctuary@uuprinceton.org),

**Ministry for the Earth** – acts to preserve earth's resources at UU Princeton and among individuals, Ray Nichols [earthministry@uuprinceton.org](mailto:earthministry@uuprinceton.org).

**UU Faith Action** – promotes advocacy actions, through support of UU Faith Action, legislative actions, and other activities. Michael Loney, [socialjustice@uuprinceton.org](mailto:socialjustice@uuprinceton.org),

**Racial Justice Ministry** – conducts anti-racism work inside and outside of UU Princeton Ted Fetter and Kevin Trayner, [racialjustice@uuprinceton.org](mailto:racialjustice@uuprinceton.org)

**Rainbow Ministry** – welcomes LGBTQIA persons at UU Princeton and advocates outside of UU Princeton (Judy Vee, [lgbtq@uuprinceton.org](mailto:lgbtq@uuprinceton.org))

### **Affiliated Activities:**

**Spring Sale** – Proceeds from our 50+ annual, congregation-wide rummage sales fund our annual Social Justice Outreach Grants (Sale Coordinators: Kirsten Shearer, Binnie Thom, Teri Hyatt, Amanda Gillum & Cathy Bauer-Koggan)

**Social Justice Outreach Grants** – Financial grants to local nonprofits sponsored by UU Princeton congregants, determined by committee review of applications. Funded by annual Spring Sale proceeds

**Review Committee Chair:** Gareth Funka-Lea,  
**Carol Allen** (Liaison to Coalition for Peace Action)  
**Jeanne DeVoe** (Liaison to Not in Our Town)  
**Valerie Haynes** (Liaison to Princeton Community Housing)

**Debra Lambo** (Liaison to Represent US NJ)  
**Dunbar Birnie** (Liaison to Citizens' Climate Lobby)

## ***Racial Justice Ministry***

Do you have a passion for equity, anti-racism and social justice? The focus of our Racial Justice Ministry includes race-related issues in local governments, working with Indigenous peoples, education and school policies, faith development opportunities (a congregational book read is in the works for example), and looking at our own internal policies, practices and history.

Come and check us out and be part of our work. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Email [racialjustice@uuprinceton.org](mailto:racialjustice@uuprinceton.org) for more information or to get on our mailing list. Or **you can** contact co-chairs Kevin Trayner and Ted Fetter directly at [Kevinctrayner@gmail.com](mailto:Kevinctrayner@gmail.com) or [fetter4@verizon.net](mailto:fetter4@verizon.net).

### **Racial Justice Ministry**

#### **Juneteenth and Pow-Wow events set for June**

Racial Justice Ministry invites everyone in the congregation to join us in two Saturday outings in June. On Saturday, June 8 we'll attend the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Pow-Wow. And on Saturday, June 15 we'll take part in the Juneteenth celebration sponsored by the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum. Both will be great, and we hope you can join!

**Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Pow-Wow, Saturday, June 8.** The Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Pow-Wow is always fun, and over a dozen folks from UU Princeton attended last year to enjoy the singing and dancing, socializing, crafts, and food. Gates open at 10 am, and the "grand entry" is scheduled for noon. Take a few hours to learn about the Lenni-Lenape, to talk and share food with tribe members and friends, and to enjoy the company. The location is the Salem County Fairgrounds in Woodstown, NJ, and the cost is \$10 per car. The county fairgrounds are about 70 miles away from the congregation, about 90 minutes by car. Here is a link to Sign Up Genius to help us count likely congregants: [Pow Wow Sign Up Genius link](#)

**Juneteenth, Saturday, June 15 at Mt Zion AME Church in Skillman, NJ.** The Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum's biggest program in the last few years has been Juneteenth, the annual celebration of Emancipation from slavery. This year the program is especially rich, featuring live gospel music, original plays, and great food, including vegan options. This year's theme is "Freedom Forward." There is lots of African American history in the Sourlands. The program will be at the Mt. Zion AME Church in Skillman, NJ. It runs from 12-noon till 4 pm. Our own Isabela Morales is the coordinator of the event, and Isabela is looking forward to having a good number of friends and associates from UU Princeton. We will park at Montgomery High School (only seven miles from our congregation), and shuttle buses will take us to Mt. Zion. The entry price for Juneteenth is changing. Adult entry is \$30. Children are \$20. Here is a Sign Up Genius link for Juneteenth: [Juneteenth Sign Up Genius link](#)

We hope you can come to both events! Both will be very special!



## Caring for Our Neighbors

### Caring for Our Neighbors Ministry

Join us for hand-on projects that help hunger and homelessness prevention in Mercer County. Contact Louise Senior at [Caring4Neighbors@uuprinceton.org](mailto:Caring4Neighbors@uuprinceton.org) if you'd like to pitch in! You can always bring shelf-stable, in date, unopened food to our **Giving Table in Robinson Lounge**. Contact Jody Maher at [JodyM1025@gmail.com](mailto:JodyM1025@gmail.com) if you'd like to help deliver food to Arm in Arm.

## Rainbow Ministry

**JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH!!! March and Celebrate with UUCP Rainbow Ministry, Saturday June 22nd, 10AM-4PM 400 Witherspoon Street / 59 Paul Robeson Place (Princeton NJ)**

Save the date! The **4th Annual Princeton PRIDE** is almost here! Organized by the **Bayard Rustin Center For Social Justice**, this event brings together all of the area's beautifully diverse and intersectional LGBTQIA+ communities. Keep an eye out for email blasts from Rainbow Ministry for details on how to march and party!



Formerly the Crisis Ministry of Mercer County

Caring for Our Neighbors

ArmlnArm is in need of food to help support the Trenton & Mercer County community. Even though the pandemic seems to be lessening, demand at the food pantries continues to increase each month, and is now almost **TWICE** what it was before COVID.

**To help, we have decided to resume our in-church drop-off collection table for food donation in Robinson Lounge at UU Princeton.**

Here are suggested items, with the greatest need for the top three. *No glass containers, please. Be sure to check expiration dates.*

- \* Canned low-fructose fruit
- \* Canned low-sodium vegetables
- \* Canned tuna, salmon, chicken or chili
- \* Canned beans or 1 lb. bag dried beans
- \* Canned potatoes
- \* Cold cereal
- \* Hot cereal
- \* Shelf-stable milk
- \* Honey (plastic container)
- \* Olive and canola oil (plastic container)
- \* Herbs and spices (plastic container)

Any questions, contact Jody Maher at [JodyM1025@gmail.com](mailto:JodyM1025@gmail.com).

**Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need.**

## Ministry for the Earth

Mark your calendars for Summer-Foam Sunday! The next UU Princeton Styrofoam recycling collection event will be after service in the lobby on July 14th. We will only accept CLEAN, WHITE, SOLID Styrofoam (the kind that splinters into little, white balls when broken apart). No egg cartons or packing peanuts. No markings, stickers, tape or dirt. This collection is for UU Princeton members only, but you are welcome to bring in foam from your friends, family and neighbors (make sure you tell them that UU Princeton sent you!). Your foam will be taken to a facility in Somerville to be upcycled.

*No importa de dónde eres, estamos contentos que seas nuestro vecino.*

No matter where you are from, we're glad you're our neighbor.

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### Land Acknowledgement

The land and waterways upon which the congregants of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton gather and live are the ancestral and unceded Lenapehoking territory of the Lenni-Lenape nation. We honor the contributions of their ancestors, those now in the diaspora, and the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape, Ramapough Lenape and Powhatan Renape who continue to live in the area we call New Jersey. We pledge to work with them to dismantle the legacy of oppression of Indigenous Peoples and to live in harmony.

### Mission Statement of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton

*In our open, welcoming community  
we live our message of hope, love,  
justice, and joy.*

*Approved at the 6/3/2012  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton  
Annual Meeting*

### The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton Relational Covenant

Our covenant affirms a commitment to build loving, healthy, and trusting relationships within our congregation.

We make these promises in order to love better, relate more compassionately, and feel the power of our human connections.

#### *Our Promises:*

- ❖ We warmly welcome all.
- ❖ We speak with honesty, respect, and compassion.
- ❖ We listen attentively.
- ❖ We express gratitude for the service of others.
- ❖ We honor and support one another in our spiritual journeys and in times of joy, need, and struggle.
- ❖ We embrace our diversity and the opportunity to share our different perspectives.
- ❖ We address our disagreements directly and openly, and see conflict through to an authentic resolution.
- ❖ We serve our spiritual community with generosity and joy.
- ❖ We strive to keep these promises, but when we fall short, we forgive ourselves and others, and begin again in love.

## SPRING SALE

### ANOTHER RECORD-BREAKING SUCCESS!!

Our 2-day event (May 3 & 4), with \$10 admission on Friday, was a HUGE SUCCESS, with **all-time high** gross proceeds of **over \$34,000** (post-sales are still in progress). After expenses, we should net over \$30,000 to fund our 2025 Community Grants to Mercer area charities.

**WE SEND OUR THANKS** to the many:

- **Donors** of so many beautiful and useful items for us to sell.
- **Dozens of Activity & Booth Chairs**, who led their areas, organized, and recruited volunteers!
- **Scores of Volunteers**, who worked behind the scenes, set up, sold, cleaned up – and everything in between!!

And, to **Jorgé**, for his tireless and invaluable help!

– 2024 Sale Coordinators, Amanda Gillum, Binnie Thom, Cathy Bauer-Koggan, Kirsten Shearer, Teri Hyatt & Emma Moore

### Meet Murray Grove's Director

Following worship on June 9th, you are warmly invited to meet and greet Jessica Aliamo, the newly appointed Executive Director of the Murray Grove Retreat Center. Jessica will answer questions and share exciting developments. Additionally, current Murray Grove volunteers Carol Haag, Kevin Trayner, Farooq Zama, and Lisa Trayner will be on hand to share their experiences of the magic of Murray Grove.

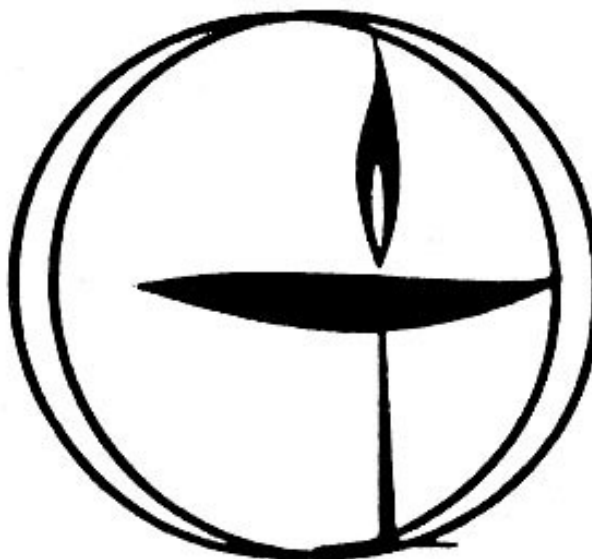
Reach out to Lisa [Lisatrayner@gmail.com](mailto:Lisatrayner@gmail.com) or Carol [revcarolh4@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolh4@gmail.com) with any questions.



### Save the Date!

**The UU Princeton End of Year Picnic** will be on June 2nd directly after service. Stay tuned to Happenings, E-Happenings and the UUCP Facebook page for more event details.

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### About Skylights

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**skylights@uuprinceton.org**  
 Please submit your article as an attachment in our preferred font, Times New Roman, 11 pt.  
 Describe your submission in the subject line of your e-mail and tell us under which Ministry it belongs.

**Next Skylights  
 Deadline:**

**June 19, 2024**

**Submissions due for the  
 July/August 2024  
 ISSUE**

[skylights@uuprinceton.org](mailto:skylights@uuprinceton.org)

**What's happening at UUCP?**

1. Photograph a UUCP event flyer
2. Text & share
3. Invite a guest