



MAY 2017

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# The First Universalist Society of Hartland

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Services & Religious Education Classes, Sundays, 10 am, in the Church

### SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

#### MAY 7 DESOLATION, CONSOLATION, WHITE SUPREMACY AND OUR FAITH

We'll introduce this month's worship theme, "Consolation and Desolation" with a special exploration of institutional racism and white supremacy in light of recent events in the leadership of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

In response to several troubling recent events in our movement, and to the long-standing expressed pain of people of color in our faith tradition, the Black Lives of UU Organizing Collective, with official endorsement by the UUA Board, has called for all UU organizations and congregations to explore the topic of white supremacy on either April 30 or May 7. Honoring this call, in this service we will join hundreds of other Unitarian Universalist congregations in exploring this topic in our congregation and our faith. *The collection will support Black Lives of UU Organizing Collective.*

#### MAY 14 DESOLATION, CONSOLATION, AND THE LIFE OF FAITH

Reflections on this month's theme and the chance for our faith to offer consolation in the midst of the desolate times of our lives, as well as a prayer for mothers of all sorts and conditions. *The collection will support The Family Place.*

#### MAY 21 MENTAL ILLNESS—PAT WHITNEY & DON FOSTER

Reflections on the challenges of Mental Illness in our society, with special guests Marjorie and Jim Matthews of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). *The collection will support NAMI Upper Valley.*

#### MAY 28 DESOLATION AND CONSOLATION—REMEMBERING WELL

Reflections for Memorial Day—honoring service and sacrifice, grief and hope. Sounding Taps and Remembering Well. *The collection will support The Veterans' Place of Vermont.*

# LOVE IS THE DOCTRINE OF THIS CHURCH

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# WEEKLY COLLECTION INFORMATION

## WE DEDICATE OUR COLLECTIONS DURING SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP TO ORGANIZATIONS DOING GOOD WORK IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES OR IN SOCIETY AS A WHOLE.

*We rely on the planned, committed, pledge support of our members and friends to support the needs of our church. We dedicate our collections during Sunday morning worship to organizations doing good work in our local communities or in society as a whole. Checks for the collection can be made out to "FUSH" and we will consolidate donations to pass on to the organization.*

*For those wishing to make a pledge payment, or a donation specifically to support our congregation's budget, there is a box on the welcoming table at the back of the sanctuary.*

*Please contact Paul if you have nominations for organizations you feel would be good choices for our support.*

### **MAY 8      BLACK LIVES OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM ORGANIZING COLLECTIVE (BLUU)**

Formed in the wake of several conversations among Black UUs at the July 2015 Movement for Black Lives Convening in Cleveland, OH, BLUU works to provide support, information & resources for Black Unitarian Universalists; and to expand the role & visibility of Black UUs within our faith. Our collection this week will be part of a commitment of a donation of \$200,000 to BLUU by the Northern New England District of the UUA—\$100,000 from the NNED Endowment, to be matched by \$100,000 from NNED Congregations—approved by the annual meeting of the NNED April 21, 2017.

### **MAY 14      THE FAMILY PLACE**

Founded in 1985, The Family Place is a parent-child center serving the entire Upper Valley region. They offer comprehensive services for families and children, including home visits, training and support for new parents, early intervention for children with special needs, playgroups, resources for financial aid for child care, and other support for families. They also operate an important service through their child advocacy center, working with state agencies to offer a safe environment for legal testimony and follow-up support for children who have made a disclosure of abuse. Rev. Paul Sawyer serves on the board of the Family Place, and dear friend and former DRE of our congregation, Nancy Theriault, is on the staff. You can contact either Paul or Nancy for more information (or to arrange a tour of the Family Place), or see their website, [www.familyplacevt.org](http://www.familyplacevt.org)

### **MAY 21      NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS OF THE UPPER VALLEY**

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is a grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. Begun in 1979 by a collection of families gathered around a kitchen table, NAMI is now a national organization that works to support people with mental illness and their loved ones through education and advocacy, and through leadership in all areas working for understanding of mental illness throughout our society. Our donations will support our local affiliate, NAMI Upper Valley, part of NAMI New Hampshire. This organization was nominated for our support by this Sunday's worship leaders. You can learn more at <http://www.naminh.org/we-advocate/affiliates/nami-upper-valley>

### **MAY 29      THE VETERANS' PLACE**

Based in Northfield, VT, the Veterans' Place offers transitional housing and support services with the goal of helping homeless vets find a home and return to society and true health. The Veterans' Place works partners with more than 25 other agencies in our region, including the Veterans' Administration system, and by all accounts does some remarkable work. More information is available at [www.vermontveteransplace.org](http://www.vermontveteransplace.org)

The wide universe  
*is the*  
**ocean I travel**  
& the Earth *is my*  
**Blue Boat Home...**



—Peter Mayer  
VISIT [UUA.ORG/WORSHIP](http://UUA.ORG/WORSHIP)

## 2016 OFFERING RECIPIENTS

In our congregation, we work to support our financial needs through the regular pledges of our members and friends, and it is our honor to offer our collection each week, in its entirety, to support an organization doing good work in our region or in the wider world.

In 2016, our fourth full year dedicating our weekly offering to organizations doing good work in the wider world, we contributed more than \$12,000 to the 47 recipients listed below. Our average collection was just over \$250.

Black Lives Matter UU Fund	Kids4Peace VT/NH
The Center for Transformational Practice	Living Tradition Fund of the UUA
Circus Zambia	Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society
Connecticut River Watershed Council	Mandela Fellows at Dartmouth
COVER Home Repair	Minister's Discretionary Fund
Death with Dignity National Education Fund	Newport, NH Back Pack Nutrition Program
The Family Place	Oceti Sakowin Camp at Standing Rock, ND
First Universalist Church and Society of Barnard *	Peace Trees Vietnam
Flood Relief Fund of UU Baton Rouge	Reading-West Windsor Food Shelf
Friends of the Hartland Library	TLC Family Resource Center of Claremont
Good Beginnings of Upper Valley	Turning Points Network (two collections)
Good Neighbor Health Clinic	Upper Valley Cinderella Project
Hartford Dismas House (two collections)	Upper Valley Haven
Hartland 4-H Club	Upper Valley Silent Warriors
Hartland Christmas Project *	Upper Valley Trails Alliance
Hartland Churches Youth Mission Trip (two collections) *	UU Musicians Network Scholarship Fund
Hartland Community Connections	UU Service Committee
Hartland Community Arts	Vermont Interfaith Power & Light
Hartland Community Nurse Program	Vermont Peace and Justice Center
Hartland Cooperative Nursery School	Veterans for Peace
Hartland Hearts for PULSE/Orlando Quilt Project	West Windsor FAST Squad
International Council of Unitarians and	Willing Hands
Universalists Burundi Appeal	WISE of the Upper Valley
Junction Teen Center	Zack's Place

\*Collections for the Youth Mission Trip were taken at joint services and given directly to the First Congregational Church of Hartland, which manages the fund for this purpose. The collection for the Hartland Christmas Project was taken at the First Congregational Church of Hartland. The collection for the Barnard Church was taken at their church.



# ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

## About Membership in the First Universalist Society of Hartland Four Corners

Our congregation is made up of both “members” and “friends,” with varying degrees of commitment to our work. Whether you formally join our congregation as a member, or whether you prefer to consider yourself a non-member “friend,” you are welcome and encouraged to participate actively in the life of our church community.

### What it Means to Be a Member of Our Congregation

Members of our congregation are those who have made a formal commitment to our community by “signing the book”—declaring their commitment publicly by setting their signature to our book of membership, in consultation with our minister.

According to our by-laws, membership is available to all those over 18 years of age who:

- “State that they are in agreement with the purposes of our Society and of the Unitarian Universalist Association”
- Are willing to participate in the work and activity of our community
- Are willing to support our work with their time, energy, and resources

There is no set time frame or specific guideline about when you might choose to become a member, but we do ask you to spend some significant time learning about the mission, history, theology, practices, and culture of our congregation through regular attendance, through our “Introduction to Unitarian Universalism” sessions, and/or through conversations with our minister and other leaders of our community.

Members of our congregation can serve in volunteer leadership positions on our governing board, board of trustees, and our committee on ministry, and can vote in congregational meetings (please note that our by-laws require that to vote to amend our by-laws, or to call or dismiss a minister, an individual must have been an active member of the congregation for at least a full year).

Members are entitled to the services of the minister and the use of the church building for rites of passage (weddings, memorial services, child dedications, etc.) at no cost.

Members are formally considered “Unitarian Universalists” by the Unitarian Universalist Association, and receive *Unitarian Universalist World* magazine at no additional cost.

### What it Means to Be a “Friend” of Our Congregation

Friends of our congregation are welcome to participate in nearly all aspects of the life of our church, including attending programs and services, serving on committees, leading lay-led worship, and, of course pledging to support our work financially.

They are not eligible to vote in congregational meetings, or to serve on our governing board, committee on ministry, or as a trustee. They can, however, serve in other leadership roles in church life, including serving as a champion of an activity.

### “Active” Membership Status, Moving Away, and other Concerns

We ask members of our congregation to maintain their “active” status through ongoing participation and/or support of our congregation. Members who discontinue participation or support of our congregation, for whatever reason, may be listed in our records as “Inactive” and may need to reactivate their membership in order to vote or to hold a leadership position.

Even members that move out of town are welcome to remain as “active” members, through regular financial or other support and through making an effort to stay connected in some fashion with our congregation.

For those who move either to or from our region, it’s good to know that Unitarian Universalist tradition allows individuals to be members of more than one congregation, provided the member meets the requirements set forth by each congregation. Under the same stipulation, we are also open to members who continue to hold ongoing membership in communities identified with other faith traditions.

Youth who are active participants in our congregation are welcome to become members after their 18th birthday, and can be considered active members during their young adult years, even if their work or school commitments leave them unable to participate regularly in the life of our congregation. We do not have a formal “confirmation” program for our youth. Youth considering membership should speak with the minister.



# YOUTH GROUP NOTES

Our congregation offers activities for youth in grades 7-12 (or the homeschool equivalent) through two youth groups—the **Junior Youth Group, for those in grades 7 & 8**, and the **Senior Youth Group for high school students**. Both groups are offered in conjunction with our friends and neighbors from the Hartland Congregational Church, and are led by the Rev. Lucia Jackson, The Rev. Paul Sawyer, and David Morin.

Both groups offer fun, fellowship, games, and a youth-centered exploration and development of faith. We gather to support one another, to have a good time, and to think about some of the big questions of life in a safe environment. We have regular meetings with activities, time to check in, reflection, and games. We also offer special events throughout the year including service opportunities, fundraising brunches at both churches, trips to Dartmouth sporting events, game nights, and, for senior youth, our annual week-long mission trip to New Haven, CT in July.



If you've been involved with our youth groups or if you've got someone just entering our youth group age, and you've been involved with our Religious Education Program for children, you should receive a full calendar and further information by US mail (old school!) soon. If you are a youth in our community, or if you know someone who you think would like to be involved, make sure we've got your information so we can keep you in the loop.

For further information about our youth groups and youth events, please contact Paul or Lucia. To stay in touch with youth group happenings, make sure that Paul and Lucia have your e-mail address, follow the youth group Facebook page, keep an eye on the newsletters and weekly e-mail updates of both churches, or better yet, come to church and read the bulletin.



## MAY 2017

**MAY 7**—YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS  
AT THE UU CHURCH—JR. 5-6:15 PM, SR.  
6:30-8 PM

**MAY 21**—5-6:00 PM—LAST JUNIOR  
YOUTH AT THE UU CHURCH

**MAY 21**—6:00 PM—AT THE UU  
CHURCH—MISSION TRIP LOGISTICS  
MEETING—**ALL PAPERWORK DUE.**  
**MANDATORY!**

**MAY 21**—6:30-8:00 PM—LAST SENIOR  
YOUTH AT THE UU CHURCH



**SAVE THE DATES: THIS YEAR'S MISSION TRIP WILL TAKE PLACE JULY 23-30, 2017!**



# SOME GUIDELINES FOR CANDLES OF JOY AND SORROW

Our Candles of Joy and Sorrow are an important aspect of our worship in our congregation. As such, it's worth spending some energy from time to time thinking about how to make them meaningful and connecting.

There is a lot of latitude as to what is appropriate to share during Joys and Sorrows, and I certainly don't want to discourage you from lighting candles when the spirit moves you. Also, I firmly believe that Candles of Joy and Sorrow belong to you—to the congregation—and that they are not mine to limit or control except perhaps in extreme circumstances.

Still, there are some good general guidelines for Joys and Sorrows, and I invite you to work with me to keep those guidelines in all of our thoughts as we experience this time each week:

- First and always, simply remember that lighting a candle is a form of prayer, and in that time, *please offer only something that is worthy of a prayer.*
- *In all cases, short and general is better than long and detailed—particularly in the cause of surgeries or injuries!*
- *Don't light a candle for someone else unless they ask you to, or unless you get permission from them to do so.* Offer what comes from the joys and sorrows of your own heart and your own life. Watch the line between prayer and gossip.
- It is ok to light a candle silently, if you prefer.
- Candles aren't time for announcements. If you have an announcement that you feel wasn't covered appropriately in announcement time, don't make it during candles. You are welcome to make announcements during coffee hour.
- Notice that we consciously use language of "joys and sorrows" and not "joys and concerns." That's a reminder that not everything that is "concerning" rises to the level of sharing for this time.
- *Avoid purely political reflection*, especially if you feel you need to explain a position in detail—though lighting a candle and briefly noting a cause that brings you joy or sorrow personally is generally fine. If you have a political cause you want to express in more depth, speak with me and, if appropriate, we'll find a way to get your information out to the congregation.
- *Remember that our candles are a time for all ages.* We believe that our children should know about the world and about what brings us joy and sorrow, but it's good to keep your language and your descriptions appropriate for all.
- Also, honoring that this is a multigenerational time—give extra leeway to children, as to what brings them joy or sorrow. Don't be quick to declare something a child says as trivial. Remember being that age and what truly mattered to you. And if you happen to be one of those with relatively low tolerance for children, at least notice that our children, whatever they're sharing, are generally very good about being brief. And remember, too, that some of our most poignant candles ever have been brought by our children.
- If you have questions about what is appropriate, or how to offer feedback to someone who you feel has overstepped one or more of these lines, please let me know!

*In faith and love,*

Paul

*If you cannot  
Sing like angels,  
If you cannot  
Speak before thousands...*

*You can give from  
Deep within you:  
You can change the world  
With your love.*

—Sally Rogers  
Hymn #131

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NOTES

What a wonderfully productive Spring we have had thus far! Our Sunday morning meetings have carried a focused energy that allows for meaningful discussion and integrated learning. On Thursday afternoons from 3-5 pm, our Hero's Journey Club has magically turned out to be just what we'd hoped for. With this extra meeting time, we have designed a relaxed setting to grow and learn together. Guided by Joseph Campbell's map of a mythical hero's journey and Jane Goodall's "Roots & Shoots" program, the children have come up with a beautiful service learning project that will be unveiled throughout the summer. Through creative thinking, artistic expression, and community projects, our young UU's are making the world a better place one day at a time.

This month the children of our RE program will be joyfully playing to the tune of this classic nursery rhyme:

"In the merry month of May  
When green leaves begin to spring,  
Little lambs do skip like fairies,  
Birds do couple, build, and sing."

## Our Children's RE program in May:

**Thursday, May 4th** - Hero's Journey Club (May the Fourth Be With You)

**Sunday, May 7th** - Children's Chapel (Comfort)

**Thursday, May 11th** - Hero's Journey Club (Mother Earth Tending)

**Sunday, May 14th** - Faith in Action (Mother's Day)

**Thursday, May 18th** - Hero's Journey Club (Love is...Theatrical)

**Sunday, May 21st** - Guest Artist (Permaculture Gardening)

**Thursday, May 25th** - Hero's Journey Club (Love is...Theatrical)

**Sunday, May 28th** - Be Peace (Labyrinth Walk/Chant)

## A sneak peak of RE in June:

**Sunday, June 4th** - Tent Service (Love is...Theatrical)

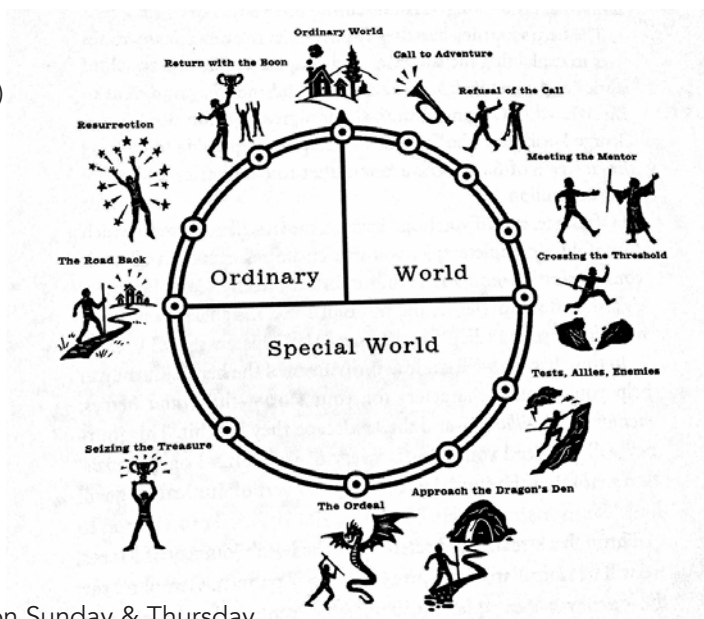
**Thursday, June 8th** - Hero's Journey Club (Children's Sunday Prep)

**Sunday, June 11th** - Children's Sunday & Flower Communion

**Thursday, June 15th** - Hero's Journey Club (Father Sun Art)

**Sunday, June 18th** - Faith in Action (Father's Day)

**Mid-June through September** - SUMMER RE Roots & Shoots Project on Sunday & Thursday.



A sunny, warm welcome to our Summer Nursery Assistant, Jess Rud. Jess is new to Hartland and our UU congregation. She has jumped right in volunteering with the children in our Hero's Journey Club and coming to service with her daughter, Elkie, on Sundays. Jess has been involved in many children's activities: helping, guiding, and listening to the ever so curious mind of the child. She feels passionate about community and is so happy to have found UU.

# SOCIAL ACTION CIRCLE

The new FUSH Social Action Circle has been sponsoring gatherings after church throughout the winter to provide opportunities to discuss and share concerns about our shared regional and national future. The initial gathering took place on Nov. 13, at which we shared our stories and a potluck lunch. The next gathering was on Jan. 15, just prior to the US Presidential inauguration. Breakout discussions focused on local decision making. A special guest, VT Windsor Co. Senator Alison Clarkson briefed us on upcoming debates in the VT Legislature.

The third gathering was on Feb. 26, which featured another great lunch followed by a talk by Vermont Lt. Governor David Zuckerman about the Next Generation of Leadership. An open discussion was led by Becca White along with three local young community leaders. About 70 people attended and conversation was brisk. An excellent review followed on the front page of the Vermont Standard. Anyone interested in reading that article please visit our web page, which can be found on the Church home page under Happenings, then choose Archives or contact us at 802 738-0102.

We are planning another gathering on May 7 after Church. The focus will be on Climate Action. There will be Climate Marches in DC and around our region on April 29 which many of our members will attend. On May 7 we will once again have a potluck lunch followed by reports from those who attended any of the Marches. Open discussion will follow. Please plan to attend and support this program.

Goals of FUSH Action include support for our members in their individual social action work and documentation of the social action history of our Church (see web site for more). If you have or know of examples of members who have participated in actions in the past please contact us. Once again, use the Social Action web page which can be found under Happenings on the Church Homepage and go to the Contact page to submit your information. Thanks.

## DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER CONTENT: MAY 22

If you have photos of people or places in our church community, please send them to saradmorin@gmail.com for possible inclusion in the newsletter.

## CIRCLE DINNERS

**Everyone has really been enjoying the Circle Dinners and there are still a few coming up!**

These are the two available Circle Dinners for May and Early June. Please sign up under the black board in the Social Room or email Sue Taylor at: dstaylor342@gmail.com!

Saturday, May 6 at 6:00 PM  
Helen Miller and Gary Shapiro  
1643 Hammond Hill Rd.  
West Windsor, VT  
802: 477-3845  
hmiller05156@yahoo.com

June 11 at 12 Noon  
Gretel Shuck  
325 Shattuck Hill Rd.  
Brownsville, VT  
802:299-1975  
gretelschuck@yahoo.com

## SoUUp SALE

**THE MAY SoUUp SALE WILL BE MAY 14.**

Then we will take the summer off and return in September. By the time we complete the



May sale, SoUUp sales will have totaled close to \$500.00 for the start of the year. Thanks to those who have made and purchased soUUps since January.

## ADULT CHOIR

*The Adult Choir is going to sing for the Memorial weekend Sunday this May, so we will rehearse at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 21st and Sunday, May 28th, to sing in the service on the 28th. 🎵*



# FUND RAISING NEWS & EVENTS

## LAST CHANCE TO HELP THE "sUUPER trUUPER team"

If you are not on the team but would like to pledge one of our members as we walk to support **Turning Points Network's WALK/FUN RUN TO END VIOLENCE**, any one of the following team members would be happy to receive your gift.



Team members include:

Joan Fariel, Don Foster, Debbie Hart, Doug Hart, Lydia Johnson, Mariete & Robert Jaarsma, Mark Koch, Melinda Meyerhoff, Don Munro, Bineke & Bram Oort, Dianne Rochford, Katy & Paul Sawyer, Gretel Schuck, Helen & Gary Shapiro, Sue & Dave Taylor, Michael Theroux, Paul Theroux, Nancy & Glenn Walker, Becca White, and Mona White.

The following are some of the ways money raised by the team will help Turning Points Network:

- ★ \$35 purchases court advocacy for a survivor to obtain a restraining order
- ★ \$130 sponsors a survivor to attend an 8-week support group
- ★ \$350 sponsors a healthy dating relationships education program for a local high school
- ★ \$1000 provides training for six new volunteers to staff the crisis line

*It will be exciting to see 26 folks decked out in lime green T-shirts, walking in solidarity for 'Social Justice'*

The graphic features a white outline of a hand holding a guitar against a background of a sunset over mountains. The text is in large, bold, white letters.

## OPEN MIC & COFFEE HOUSE

**Saturday, May 20th**  
**6:30pm – 9pm**

*Join us for a laid-back evening of  
live music, coffee and desserts.*

## ALL ARE WELCOME



## THE RED APRONS

Red Aprons provides support for all kinds of gatherings.

Our services include:

- Event Planning
- Kitchen and food management
- Buffet and serving
- Clean up

The program is not only a fund raiser for the Church but also a great way to promote it to the wider Upper Valley community.

If you are planning an event, please see our web page at [www.hartlanduu.com/redaprons](http://www.hartlanduu.com/redaprons) or call us at (802) 738-0255.

If you would like to participate in this work, please contact Joan Fariel or Chuck Fenton at (802) 738-0255. We always need more volunteers. And for those who have volunteered, a BIG THANK YOU!



## MAY 2017 CALENDAR

05	FRI	8-10 am	Food Shelf
06	SAT	8:30 AM 6 pm	Steppin' Up to End Violence Walk in Claremont Circle Dinner: Miller-Shapiro, West Windsor VT
07	SUN	10 am 11:30 am 5-6:15 pm 6:30-8 pm	Worship Service Introduction to Unitarian Universalism & Our Congregation Junior Youth at Our Church Senior Youth at Our Church
08	MON	7 pm	Governing Board meeting
12	FRI	8-10 am	Food Shelf
14	SUN	10 am 11:30 am	Worship Service SoUUpper Second Sunday Soup Sale
18	THU	3-5 pm	Hero's Journey Club in the Yurt
19	FRI	8-10 am	Food Shelf
20	SAT	6 pm 6:30-9 pm	Circle Dinner: Pat Whitney, Sunapee NH FUSH Coffeehouse Open Mic! 🎵
21	SUN	9 am 10 am 5-6 pm 6-7pm 6:30-8 pm	Adult Choir Practice 🎵 Worship Service Junior Youth at Our Church, Last Meeting of the Year Mission Trip Meeting at Our Church <b>Mandatory! All Mission Trip Paperwork due!</b> Senior Youth at Our Church, Last Meeting of the Year
26	FRI	8-10 am	Food Shelf
28	SUN	9 am 10 am	Choir Rehearsal & Sing in Service 🎵 Worship Service





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THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY  
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**MAY 2017  
 NEWSLETTER**