



The Unitarian Church in Westport

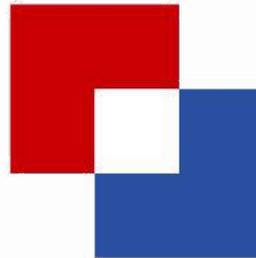
Soundings

10 Lyons Plains Road Westport, CT 06880
Phone: 203-227-7205

website:
uuwestport.org

Better Angels

Several weeks ago Rev. John invited our congregation to become part of the Better Angels Project - <https://www.better-angels.org/> The project helps to promote accurate understandings between people of different political and cultural understandings. There will be an organizing meeting on Thursday March 28th at 7 pm in the East Wing at the church. Please attend if you are interested in learning more or volunteering for this effort.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Child care is provided for Sunday Services & on an as needed basis for other events. Organizers of events should contact [Saundra Clements](mailto:Saundra.Clements@uuwestport.org) to arrange child care.

SUNDAY SERVICE - MARCH 24, 2019 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

"Our Journey Towards Climate Justice" - Rev. John Morehouse



Rev. John explores the theological implications of climate change and what we can do about it.

Worship Associate:
Joanne Glasser Orenstein

Pastoral Care Chaplain:
9:00 Shari Brennan - 11:00 Eileen O'Reilly

Music: Once & Again Singers



Fri March 22
Shawl Ministry - MH - 12:30

Sat March 23
Preaching Workshop - Sanctuary - 10:00

Voice Classes - Chapel - 10:00

Sun March 24
6th-7th Grade "Reflect" - MH - 10:00

Meditation - Willow

Sunday, March 17, 2019



"Sources of Our Faith" - Rev. John Morehouse

Room - 10:00

COA - OWL Room - 11:00

Youth Group (9th-12th) - YR - 11:00

4th/5th OWL - Chapel - 11:00

Harvest the Power - EW - 12:30

Mon March 25
NVC Practice Group - FR - 6:30

Bell Choir - 6:45

Tues March 26
Facilities Advisory Team - Rev. John's office - 6:00

Ethical Food Ministry - EW - 7:00

#MeToo Council - FR - 7:00

Special Projects Choir - 7:45

Wed March 27
Immigration Comm. Support Team - FR - 5:45

Worship Associates - Rev. John's office - 7:00

Thurs March 28
Children's Choir - 5:00

Teen Choir - 6:00

Better Angels - EW - 7:00

Men's/Women's Choirs - 7:45

Fri March 29
UU Movie Discussion - EW - 7:30



Our **Annual Operating Budget Canvass** is in full swing with a goal of wrapping up by the end of March. That's right- in **less than two weeks!**

So far we're doing well AND we need your **PLEDGE** for the coming church year to finish off on a high note!

A pledge is your financial commitment - of any amount - which can be paid monthly, quarterly, bank draft, credit card, or whatever method works best for your household. **Plain and simple- your pledge allows us to prepare a budget for next church year.** Without that information preparing a budget is very difficult.

Please fill out a pledge card this Sunday. If you have any questions, the Stewards will be in the Foyer to help you and receive your card.

The Stewardship Committee thanks everyone who has made their pledge and encourages all who are able to make a pledge-of any amount- and to do so this Sunday at the Stewardship table in the foyer.

Building an Abundant Community takes all of us!

Testimonial



Sal Mollica

Capital Campaign Planning Team News



The CC Planning Team has created Document 6, which includes questions and concerns brought up at the Town Hall Meetings on February 24 as well as individual answers from the team.

Please read this important document and contact the CC Planning Team at CC@uwestport.org if you have additional questions, comments, or concerns.

- [1. High Priority Projects for 2019 Capital Campaign](#)
- [2. The Capital Campaign Update](#)
- [3. 2019 Capital Campaign Timeline](#)
- [4. Facts and Figures](#)
- [5. Options](#)
- [6. Reflections from the Congregation](#)



Sat March 30

Preaching Workshop -
EW - 10:00

Special Projects
rehearsal - Sanctuary -
10:00

Voice Classes -
Sanctuary - 11:15

Sun March 31

Meditation - Willow
Room - 10:00

6th-7th Grade "Learn" -
MH - 11:00

COA - OWL Room -
11:00

Youth Group (9th-12th) -
YR - 11:00

4th/5th OWL - Chapel -
11:00

Harvest the Power -
EW - 12:30

Stewardship Thank You
Event - 12:30

Mon April 1

Buddhist Practice
Group - MH - 6:30

Bell Choir - 6:45

O&A - 7:45

Wed April 3

Stewardship
Committee - FR - 7:00

Chamber Choir - 7:45

Thurs April 4

Children's Choir - 5:00

Teen Choir - 6:00

Men's/Women's Choirs
- 7:45

Fri April 5

Shawl Ministry - MH -

Testimonial



Ron Taylor talks about why he became a Pastoral Care Chaplain

12:30

Sat April 6

Voice Classes -
Sanctuary - 10:00

ARM - EW - 12:00

Sun April 7

Meditation - Willow
Room - 10:00

COA - OWL Room -
11:00

Youth Group (9th-12th) -
YR - 11:00

4th/5th OWL - Chapel -
11:00

Harvest the Power -
EW - 12:30

Immigration Social
Action - Sanctuary -
12:30

COMING ON MARCH 31



On Sunday, March 31, at the 11:00 service, the Special Projects Choir and guest musicians will present *"The World Beloved"* - a Bluegrass Mass. Our annual spring concert/service will feature a work that is a work scored for guitar, banjo, mandolin, bass, fiddle and choir. It offers an unusual combination of sounds, styles, lyrics and reflections. Vocalessence, a choral group from Minneapolis, commissioned the work

from Carol Barnett (also from Minnesota) and lyricist Marisha Chamberlain. More on this next week.

[SEE TUCW'S
CALENDAR FOR
MORE
INFORMATION](#)



The Lift is open and operational every Sunday from 8:30 am-1:00 pm.

Our sexton Desmond is responsible for opening it up and closing it. Step-by-step instructions are posted on the Lift entrance doors and also on the inside. It works fine and doesn't require an outside operator. In case of an issue with the Lift there is a call button that will ring in the Fellowship Room to alert Desmond or another trained individual to come out to assist. If the Lift is needed another day please call ahead to the church and someone on staff will open the Lift. We do open it as needed for large congregational events.



There is a key to the Lift in the "Tea Drawer" so marked in the kitchen.



TUCWOMEN

Ready to chase the winter chill away? Warm up with good food and conversation at a TUCWomen Potluck

April Potluck - Friday, April 5th at 6:30. At the home of Eileen Belmont in Westport.

Bring anything you'd like to share - appetizer, salad, side, main dish, dessert - no rules. If you don't have time to cook or shop, come anyway; there is always plenty.

It's important to RSVP so that you receive location and parking details.

RSVP to Sharon - sharon@slpoole.com

Mark your calendar:

Quotable Women Brown Bag Lunch - Sunday April 14

in the Meeting House, after the 11:00 AM service.

Cathy Paine will be our Guide

Are you receiving TUCWomen email notices?

If not or if you are not sure

sign up here --> [Add me to the list!](#)

Questions about TUCWomen?

Send them to tucwomen@uuwestport.org



"Who you gonna call?" A guide to who you can talk to if you have a question or concern.



Ours is a busy and complex congregation. There are dozens of committees, teams, and task forces doing the ministry of our beloved congregation. There are also elected bodies: the Board of Trustees, who are responsible for making policy and overseeing the finances of our congregation, the Committee on Ministries or COM who promote and evaluate how effective our ministry is in relation to our Mission, the Endowment Committee, who oversee our Endowment Fund and the Nominating Committee, who are responsible for finding and nominating congregants to serve on the elected committees. Our other committees and teams are often, but not always, appointed by the Leadership Development Team and the Senior Minister.

Each committee and team has a "staff anchor" who is responsible for assisting the group in achieving their mission. If you are interested in serving on a committee or team speak to Rev. John.

Here is a quick list of who you can call or contact if you have a question or concern:

Board of Trustees - Issues related to the general direction our congregation is headed or questions about our financial health board@uwestport.org

Committee on Ministries - Issues related to how a particular ministry is working (Worship, Music, Social Justice, Lifespan Faith Development, etc.) also concerns about the Senior Minister can be directed here. com@uwestport.org

Rev. John Morehouse, Senior Minister and CEO - Under our form of policy governance, Rev. John acts at the CEO of our congregation, so any question or concern regarding staff, administration, building and grounds, finances, ministry, etc. should be directed to him. Ultimately, the buck stops with him. Please feel free to contact John directly revjohn@uwestport.org

Concerns of a personal nature - be it spiritual, medical, safety, harassment or any other concern you might have - can be sent to our Pastoral Care Chaplains at pca@uwestport.org They work with the Senior Minister to help directly or, after talking to you, to pass the concern to the most appropriate person/group to help.

Are you mourning the loss of a person close to you? Consider joining a Grief Support group at the Unitarian Church in Westport.

The loss of a person close to us may be one of the most difficult challenges we'll ever face. Sharing about our loss and our grief journey where all our thoughts and feelings are welcomed, and listening to others in this circle of support can help us move toward healing and wholeness.

If you are experiencing sadness and grief over the death of someone close to you, you are welcome to attend the Grief Support Group at the Unitarian Church in Westport, CT. There you will find a safe space to share your loss and to support others in their grief.

The next scheduled Grief Support Group will start on Monday, May 6 through June 17, excluding May 27th which is Memorial Day. We will meet for six sessions from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the Unitarian Church in Westport, 10 Lyons Plains Road. Two facilitators, Pat Francek, MSW, and Charles Harrington, PhD, will guide us through the grief process and will present thoughts for reflection and discussion. Each session will give time for sharing and support from the group. Included also are grounding meditations and readings around a theme. Themes include: Sharing Your Story, Reactions to Grief, Myths, Coping Strategies, Memorializing your Loved One (through stories, photos and objects), Honoring their Legacy, and finally Self-Care, seeking social support, and finding meaning in your own life as you move on.

To register or to seek more information, please contact either Pat Francek, MSW, at 203-893-1781 or at patfrancek@gmail.com, or Charles Harrington, PhD, at 203-664-1653 or at ccharrington20@gmail.com.



Voices Café - April 13 at 8:00 pm

The Unitarian Church in Westport, 10 Lyons Plains Road, Westport



Reggie Harris and Greg Greenway were born three days apart, both with family ancestry-enslaved and free-flowing through the same portal of American history, Richmond, VA.

The racial divisions that are the reality of America started each of them in two very different worlds. But, the amazing bonds of music, mutual respect, sheer admiration, and shared vision have brought them together as friends and colleagues.

They are now on a pilgrimage together - one that began three decades ago. Join them on this pilgrimage, a pilgrimage that is Deeper Than The Skin.

Purchase tickets at <https://voicescafe.org/show/greg-and-reggie/>

Doors open at 7:30 ~ Cabaret seating ~ Tickets (\$25 in advance/\$30 walk-up)

Information/ reservations at 203.227.7205 x14 - david@uwestport.org

UPCOMING SERVICES

March 31, 2019 - 9:00 AM

"Walking the Crooked Path" - Rev. John Morehouse

March 31, 2019 - 11:00 AM service/concert

Special Projects Choir presents "A Bluegrass Mass" of Carol Barnett. There will be guest instrumentalists joining us for this unique choral work.

April 7, 2019 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

"Our Journey Towards Wholeness" - Rev. John Morehouse

April 14, 2019 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

"The Whole of our Children" - Rev. John Morehouse

April 21, 2019 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Easter Sunday: "A Proverbs of Ashes" - Rev. John Morehouse

April 28, 2019 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

"Earth Day" - Rev. Jim Francek



Meditation is led by Janet Luongo and others from 10:00 to 10:45 AM every Sunday in the Willow Room downstairs.

We center on our inner light and sense our inter-connectedness with all, using a variety of traditions from mindfulness and music to yoga and Zen.

For more information, contact Janet Luongo - jlungo3@optonline.net

Pastoral Care - If you are going through a challenging time or know somebody in the congregation who needs support from our Pastoral Care Chaplains, call to leave a confidential message in the PCA voice mailbox - (203-227-7205 ext. 19) or email - pca@uwestport.org.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about our Pastoral Care Chaplains



you are not alone!

For individuals or families of our congregation seeking confidential support or information about addiction issues... please contact our Addiction Recovery Ministry by calling 203-227-7205 ext. 19 or emailing pca@uwestport.org.



Announcing the new
Spring 2019 Adult Faith Formation
Six Part Series
Women, Spirit and Imagination

Offering women a safe, welcoming place to explore their spirituality and imaginations. Experience inspiration, creativity and connection. Absorb the healing power of beauty and a supportive community. Develop a calm and peace within, an inner haven to return to at any time.

Six Experiences, Six Women Leaders

7:00 PM-9:00 PM - Meeting House (sessions 2 - 6)

- 1 Tuesday, April 9 "Spirit & the Arts" -- Janet Luongo - Norwalk, Janet's home
- 2 Wednesday, April 17 "Spirituality of Mentoring" -- Cheryl Dixon Paul
- 3 Tuesday, April 23 "Fragrance Spirituality" -- Denise Page
- 4 Tuesday, April 30 "Deeper Vision" -- Beverly Bailey
- 5 Tuesday, May 7 "Woman as Spiritual Warrior" -- Marti Bishop
- 6 Tuesday, May 14 "The Gift of Co-Imagining" -- Pat Francek

Six women will each facilitate a spiritual experience that involves the imagination (no prior expertise needed). We encourage women, if possible, to commit to the whole series in order to create a deeper community.

For more information contact Janet Loungo (jloungo3@optonline.net)
or Rev. Shelly (revshelly@uwestport.org)
Register by email tucwomen@uwestport.org

Limited to 20 women. Please register by April 5.



I Want to be Alive with You by Toko-Pa Turner

I want to be guided by older-ups.
I want babies to be born where old people die.
I want to be sandwiched in the middle of a messy togetherness.

I want to be warned before I do something stupid.
I want to be forgiven when I do it anyway.
I want wisdom to be tapped out on my eardrums and not Googled....



Read the rest at Rev. John's blog, *Facing Grace*
at <https://facing-grace.blogspot.com/>



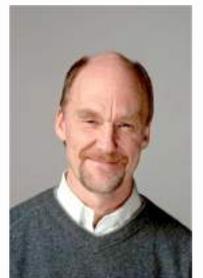
Hello, TUCW!

It is my pleasure to present the Spring 2019 Adult Faith Formation Program. We have four exciting offerings to entice you. Please sign up early to reserve your spots in these wonderful experiences that are sure to help you grow and explore your Unitarian Universalist Faith. There will be a more detailed guide available soon in our lobby and in Soundings. Please feel free to contact me, Rev. Shelly Thompson at revshelly@uuwestport.org with any questions, or contact the presenters directly. In Faith, Rev Shelly

Plan ahead: the Fall 2019 Faith Formation session will begin in September. If you have a group or workshop that you would like to discuss with me as a potential offering, please email Rev. Shelly Thompson - revshelly@uuwestport.org

Spiritual Autobiography with Tom Hearne

"This workshop series is designed to create a safe, small group environment in which we each can consider the experiences of our lives with the specific intention of creating an autobiography - an exposition of how the spirit has moved in your life to date. By considering the threads of our lives, meditating upon them, journaling and (selectively!) sharing our stories and insights, we can continually deepen our connection to the life-long process of discovering meaning --our journey of spirit."



There will be 4 sessions every other **Wednesday, April 10th; April 24th; May 8th; and May 22nd at 7:30 PM.**

To Register, please contact Tom Hearne - thearne3@gmail.com



Women, Spirit and Imagination with TUCWomen

TUCWomen present a six-week series of unique experiences each led by a different talented woman. Explore inspiration, creativity and connection, beginning **Tuesday, April 9, 7:00-9:00 PM**. Limited to 20 women. Sign up for one or all.

Please contact Sharon Poole - tucwomen@uuwestport.org to register by April 5th. [See the flyer for more details.](#)

Dissent and Religion with Ravi Sankar

This 3-part discussion series is based upon a program developed and presented at the Chautauqua Institute. The series will be given in 3 consecutive weekend sessions 90 minutes each. **Tentative dates in April: [Saturday, April 13th, 20th, 27th]**



Contact Ravi Sankar - ravisankar100@yahoo.com for more information and to register.

Building Personal Resiliency with Rev. Jim Francek



"I have recently co-authored a book entitled Building Personal Resiliency that will be released within the next few weeks. I designed a workshop for Emergency Room staff and I would like to offer the same opportunity to our congregants.

The workshop is being offered in two Sessions on **May 11th and 18th from 9:30 am to noon**. I think participants of this workshop will take away a number of outcomes.: An increased number of practical tools for living resiliently; Meaningful conversations that support positive outcomes; An identification of one's personal strengths of resiliency; A personal vision & action plan for maintaining resiliency."

Please register so that we have enough materials prepared. There is a minimal cost of \$12 for the book and other materials. If the cost is an issue please talk to Jim. However, the size of the group will be **limited to 50 people**.

To register please email Jim Francek - jimfrancek25@gmail.com Any questions, please call Jim at 719-534-3338.

LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT - MARCH 24, 2019

Easter is just 5 Sundays away. Time to collect cans of pet food (dog and cat food only) for our Easter Sunday Hunt.

All your cans of pet food will be donated to the Westport Animal Shelter. Please drop off your cans downstairs in your child's classroom when signing them in.



THIS WEEK INFORMATION for (Pre-K to 5)

Theme: Journey

Topic: New beginnings

UU Principal #1: Each and every person is important.

PreK-1st 9:00 am and 11:00 am service

LOWER LEVEL - Pine room

2nd-3rd 11:00 am service

LOWER LEVEL- Oak room

4th- 5th OWL - CHAPEL classroom 11:00 am-12:15 pm

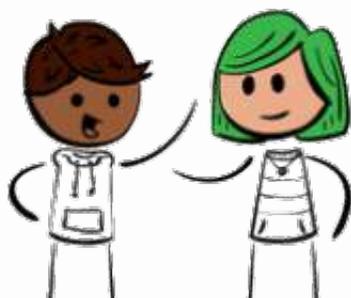
For those 4th-5th graders not attending OWL at 11:00 am,
please join your friends in the Oak room



[CLICK HERE](#) for PreK-5 FAMILY "take-home" for SUNDAY, March 24, 2019

• Families please pick up your children after
the service ends 😊

Together get that snack, juice & cup of coffee.



YOUTH GROUP



Youth Group happens at 11:00 am on Sunday in the lower level of the Meeting House.

6th-7th Graders Crossing Paths Upcoming Classes

March 24, 2019 - Learn about Buddhism

March 30, 2019 - Saturday 10:00 am-12:00 pm Visit to the Do Ngak Kunphen Ling Tibetan Buddhist Center for Universal Peace (DNKL)

April 7, 2019 - Learn about Lakota Traditions with Jim Francek

April 14, 2019 - Pipe Ceremony with Jim Francek?



SOME DATES:

- * **April 26 (Fri)- 28 (Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) BOSTON Trip
- * **May 5 (Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) Coming of Age Ceremony
- * **May 19 (Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) comes to Youth Group
- * **June 2 (Sun):** Bridging Ceremony (Seniors)



The Unitarian Church in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of all backgrounds and beliefs.

WE INSPIRE and support individual spiritual growth.

WE CONNECT through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries.

WE ACT in the service of peace and justice.