

THE COMMUNITARIAN

COMMUNITY UNITARIAN CHURCH AT WHITE PLAINS

Sunday Services 10:15 am Religious Education 10:00 am Accessible to the Handicapped

JUNE 2012



Community Unitarian Church
468 Rosedale Avenue
White Plains, NY 10605
Founded 1909

The Rev. Benjamin Maucere
Interim Minister

Annie Gonzalez
Religious Education Coordinator

Liliana Keith
Church Administrator

Adam Kent
Music Director

Lisa Meyer
Choir Director

The Rev. Deb Morra
Community Minister
in Association with CUC

Susan King
Bookkeeper

For more information
about CUC:

www.cucwp.org
Email: info@cucwp.org
914.946.1660

Communitarian Deadline for
Summer Edition:
Sunday, June 17

Submit information to
Emily Economou, Editor
emily.economou@gmail.com

In the Interim . . . You may miss the Annual Meeting, so here's my report.

My primary job as your Interim Minister is to do everything I possibly can to improve the odds on a long and successful settled ministry. This involves a great deal of listening – to individuals, committees, staff members, the Board of Trustees– in order to understand the most important issues you are facing and the many perspectives you bring to bear on them.

It has also involved working closely with and supporting the work of the Board, as strong a group of talented and committed congregational leaders as I have ever been privileged to labor alongside. I give special thanks to Janet Press, Board President Extraordinaire.

My transition team (Janet Bear, Mary Cavallero, Howard Garson and Al Rocchi) has been extremely helpful as my “think tank.” Thank you for meeting with me regularly and discussing how you have seen the congregation moving forward.

I am gratified that you, the congregation of CUC, have made significant progress in several of the interim developmental tasks. These are, you may recall, for the congregation to engage and acknowledge its griefs and conflicts, to recognize its unique identity and its strengths, needs, and challenges, to develop a clear understanding of the appropriate leadership roles of minister(s), church staff, and lay leaders, to navigate the shifts in leadership that may accompany times of transition, to make appropriate use of District, UUA, and other outside resources, and to develop a renewed vision and strong stewardship, prepared for new growth and new professional leadership; to be ready to embrace the future with anticipation and zest.

You participated in many conversations and two October workshops to talk about your history and how you were affected by significant events. I've seen great progress in your wiliness to set aside past differences, to heal, and to be ready to move forward together.

During the year, beginning with my first sermon in September, I have challenged you to consider who you are as a congregation and who you want to be. This continued through the conversations you had as part of the Giving Campaign, with its emphasis on what you most value about CUC.

I was pleased to see that such a large delegation from CUC attended the Metro District annual meeting in late April. Many of you came back with an appreciation of the benefits of meeting with and talking with other Unitarian Universalists in the area.

Through the Ministerial Search Committee process and my work with you the coming year will bring a greater focus on identity, purpose and direction, and your mission/vision for the future of CUC.

My sense is that you're on the right track and we're working well together. You're a good congregation, made up of strong, talented and committed individuals. I think you will be very attractive to prospective candidates for the settled minister position. I look forward to our work together next year.

Yours in faith, Benjamin

JUNE SERVICES 2012, 10:15 AM

June 3. The Rev. Benjamin Maucere. *Worship As You Go.* Tips on making every day a Sunday. And remember to bring a flower for Flower Communion!

June 10. The Rev. Benjamin Maucere. *In This Refulgent Summer . . .* a celebration of summer. In this service we will also honor those who take on the work of the church and our 25 and 50 year members.

June 17. Petra Thombs. *Justice For Our Fathers.* Juneteenth Service. We will use this occasion to commemorate men who have been targeted by law enforcement.

June 24. Joann Princivalli. *Reading the Tetragrammaton Backward.* An exploration of gender stereotyping in patriarchal religions and how it relates to Fathers, Mothers, Parents.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In this my last Communitarian article as your Chair of the Board of Trustees, I invite you to join me and look back at our year together.

- We greeted our new Interim Minister, Benjamin Maucere, hosting several welcoming parties, including the one that wasn't because of Hurricane Irene
- During this interim period, we began the process of congregational introspection by developing a memory wall in Fellowship Hall
- We were all super-heroes for a night, at the annual auction
- Our Community Action Project got started and we began an ongoing relationship with local family shelter, The Coachman
- We all learned a little more about ourselves from Benjamin, at the Thanksgiving (Communion) Service
- Benjamin learned a little more about us, at our traditional candlelight Christmas Eve service
- We bid a fond farewell to our extraordinarily gifted, DRE, Lara Campbell
- We began the New Year with congregational conversations in preparation for seating a search committee
- We reframed the yearly canvass, into an Annual Giving Campaign to acknowledge our understanding of "Spiritual Giving"
- We approved a criminal background screening process for volunteers
- We wrestled with difficult budgetary issues

As June begins, I look forward to sharing our final services of the church year with you and marking the year's completion at our annual barbeque.

I want to thank my dedicated board, a group of caring and focused leaders, who rose to the challenge of change with wisdom and tireless energy. And I particularly want to thank David Schuler, my most dedicated Vice Chair, for handling many of the most challenging issues we faced on my behalf.

Finally, on a most personal note I want to thank all of you for your friendship and support; it truly has been a privilege to serve at this pivotal time in our history.

~ In Community,
Janet Press, Board Chair

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Acting DRE Lily Rappaport Announcement

We are pleased to announce that Lillian Rappaport will be joining CUC as Acting Director of Religious Education in August.

Lily brings seventeen years of UU RE teaching and leadership experience in two large area congregations to CUC. Lily has served as the Youth Program Director in Westport, CT since 2009. In this position, she administers the high school youth group of over sixty members, and recruits and trains volunteers. Prior to this position, Lily was a member of the Shelter Rock congregation where she served as youth adviser for the junior high group, directed multigenerational and holiday services, was a member of the RE Committee, and coordinated youth outreach programs.

Lily holds a bachelor's degree in theater from Oberlin College. Over the past decade, Lily has completed a wide variety of UU leadership and RE training programs.

We look forward to introducing Lily to the CUC community in the coming months.

Interim DRE Search Committee

***Michelle Reichman, Robin Rocchi, David Schuler,
Kevin Sullivan***

Religious Education Council

I can't believe the end of the church year is upon us already! Thanks to the RE Council, the RE teachers and other RE volunteers for making it another successful year in RE! And, thanks and farewell to Annie Gonzalez who has been Youth Advisor for two years and RE Coordinator since January. Annie just graduated from seminary and is moving on to a ministerial internship in California.

Our new acting DRE, Lily Rappaport, will start in early August. Lily comes to CUC with experience at the Westport and Shelter Rock congregations. To help us get her started, please submit your RE registration forms as soon as possible. And, please let Annie know if you are interested in being an RE teacher next year. Your timely feedback will help us plan the tentative class groupings and teaching assignments for Lily.

After a successful Coming of Age service on May 19, we have a few RE activities left for the year. There will be a special RE activity on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend when no regular RE classes will be held. The children are invited to help plant flowers to beautify the CUC grounds.

On June 10, CUC will hold its annual bridging ceremony for the graduating high school seniors.

- Robin Rocchi, RE Council Chair

Official Notice

The Board of Trustees calls the Annual Meeting of the Congregation following the service on Sunday, June 3, 2012 for the purpose of

- receiving Annual Reports;
- voting on the Board of Trustees slate presented by the Nominating Committee;
- the election of members to the Nominating Committee;
- voting on CUC's operating budget for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013;
- voting on CUC's capital expenditures for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON NOMINEES ARE ON PAGE 4.

NOMINEES FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM

JOHANNA BAUER

Recording Secretary

Johanna Bauer began attending the First Unitarian Society in Hartford, Connecticut in 1962. In 1995 she was looking for a place for religious education and worship for herself and her four children and found CUC. At that time they were living in the Bronx and have subsequently moved to New Rochelle. Her youngest son completed his Coming of Age in 2006.

Service to the CUC community has included seven years as an RE teacher, two stints as a Coming of Age Mentor, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, and currently as co-chair of the Community Action Project.

Johanna works as an investigator with the US Department of Labor enforcing the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Family and Medical Leave Act.

NICKY KLEMENS, Treasurer

Nicole Siltan Klemens, Nicky, is a life long UU who grew up here at CUC. She has served in numerous capacities over the last 20-plus years, including the Religious Education Council, the Audit, Auction, Long Term Building/Planning, Kitchen, Safe Congregations, Caring & Sharing committees. She has also worked on various community outreach projects, and served a term on the Board of Trustees, including one year as Board Chair.

In her professional life, Nicky owns her own business, Let's Get Organized LLC, a daily money management and organizing firm that serves the elderly, busy professionals and small businesses. Previously, she worked for KLM Royal Dutch Airlines in various positions in Sales and Reservations. She holds a BA in Psychology from Harpur College, State University of New York at Binghamton, NY.

Nicky's 2 sons, Dan and Rob, completed their religious education at CUC. Both will be away at colleges in Connecticut in September.

Nicky looks forward to being part of the Board of Trustees as CUC continues to move forward toward a settled minister, congregational growth and financial stability.

FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS

JANET BEAR

Following a move from Connecticut to Larchmont in 1986, Janet Bear, husband Steve and their two daughters, Elizabeth and Jessica joined CUC. Her initial involvement began in the Religious Education wing, first as a volunteer at special Sunday events, then as a teacher and as a member and Chair of the Religious Education Council. During the 1990's, Janet served as Treasurer of CUC.

Since returning from a two-year move to Paris in the late 1990's, Janet has served one three-year term on the Board of Trustees. In addition, she has been on the Finance Committee, been a member and Chair of several Ministerial Intern Committees and has been a mentor to a Coming of Age youth. Last year she joined the CUC Choir, which has been a creative pleasure! Currently, Janet is a member of Rev. Benjamin's Transition Committee.

Janet is also a member of the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Community Television Board, where she serves as Treasurer. Outside activities include a love of travel and cooking and a passion for tennis.

RANDOLPH MARSHALL

A long-time member of CUC, Randolph Marshall began attending in 1996 when his oldest child, Trevor, was in first grade. Both Trevor and his middle child, Ginger, now a freshman in college, were youth members of the Board of Trustees, so they will have preceded him in this post. He notes that "This is by no means the first time they accomplished something before I did, and it won't be the last."

As a Professor of Neurology on the faculty of Columbia University Medical Center, Randolph does research in stroke as well as seeing patients and teaching. Over the years he has served on a number of committees and other functions at CUC, including the Pledge Committee, RE Council, Laura Campbell's Advisory Committee and most recently on the Worship Committee, where he is finishing up a two-year commitment. He has taught in RE at a number of levels

and is currently a third-time mentor for a Coming of Age student.

Randolph writes "CUC has brought many important things to my life and the life of my family, spiritually and socially. I am committed to the life of the Church, and I am excited to be considered for the BOT, as it will give me more opportunities to give something back. We are entering a particularly interesting time in CUC's trajectory as we move ahead to select a new minister. I am happy to be part of this and other challenges that face us over the next couple of years. I welcome the work as well as the interaction with other Board members and the congregation as a whole."

BENNETT RINK

A member of Community Unitarian Church since 2006, Bennett Rink has served on CUC's Religious Education Council for the past four years. He grew up attending the First Unitarian Church in Louisville, KY, where his parents are still members.

Professionally, Bennett is Senior Director, Development and External Affairs, for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and oversees all of the Ailey organization's fundraising, marketing and public relations efforts. He originally joined Ailey in 1994 as Manager of Special Events and subsequently became Development Director in 1998 before assuming his current role in 2007. Prior to joining Ailey, Bennett was Associate Development Director at the Lawrence A. Wein Center for Dance and Theater and the Assistant to the President of The New 42nd Street.

Bennett has taught in CUC's R.E. program since 2007. Last year, he legally married David Bowen, his partner of twenty-six years; they have two children, Leo, ten and Violet, six.

Bennett graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Musical Theater from Syracuse University. While he has not performed professionally in more than twenty years, he maintains his lifelong love of the performing arts and now enjoys playing the piano and singing purely for the joy of it.

MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The CUC Search Committee is up and running and is developing a congregational survey that will help define who we are, what we prioritize, what our core values are, and where we want to go as a congregation. This information will help prospective ministers decide if CUC might be a good fit for them. The survey is also a tool that will educate the search committee members so we can make an informed judgment on which prospective minister will best meet congregational needs and desires.

It is critically important that all members and friends of CUC complete this survey. We need your input to ensure the integrity and success of this process. Over the next few weeks you will receive more detailed information about the survey along with an email link to a survey website where you can complete the survey on-line. (We will also have hard copies available for those members and friends that do not or cannot complete the survey on-line.) Members of the search committee will also be available at tables set up in the CUC lobby after services on June 3 and June 10 to answer any questions you may have.

The survey is an important part of the search for a new minister. But it is only the first step. We will hold small group meetings during the summer and fall and will speak with a number of individuals and committees. These will be opportunities for the search committee to expand on the results of the survey and for you to share information and concerns not fully covered in the survey questions. We will be holding the first of these “cottage meetings” on June 10, after the BBQ, and on June 17, after services.

We welcome any communication regarding the minister search—send us an e-mail, call us on the phone or walk up to any one of us at CUC. The more input from everyone at CUC, the more successful this search will be.

What could you do now?

- **Watch for the survey release, and complete a survey thoughtfully and on time**
- **Attend a group meeting this summer**
- **Talk to us, anytime, or at CUC on June 3, 10, 17 after services**

The CUC Search Committee

Diana Echevarria	646-251-2391	dechevarria1@verizon.net
Emily Economou	914-633-4455	emily.economou@gmail.com
Ted Kuczinski	914-949-6619	tadex@optonline.net
Al Rocchi	914-777-3216	al.rocchi@credit-suisse.com
Lori Saccardi	914-761-2179	Lorisaccardi@yahoo.com
Janice Silverberg	914 591-5083	silverberg2@aol.com
Jeff Tomlinson	914-428-8032	Jefflt@prodigy.net



We need your talents from A to Z!

Are you
Amazing, Creative,
Organized or Zany?

Help us plan next year's fabulous CUC Auction!
First Meeting: June 3rd, 9am, CUC

Interested but can't come? Contact Catherine
Kortlandt at cemk_99@yahoo.com or Ann Marie
Damashek, scottam@verizon.net

Got Photos?

**The CUC website
needs your photos.
The Ministerial
Search Committee
needs your photos.**

Please send your photos of
CUC events electronically
to Emily Economou at
Emily.economou@gmail.com

A picture says a thousand
words....

Saturday, June 2nd, 7 pm

**CUC CONCERT SERIES
Chopin**

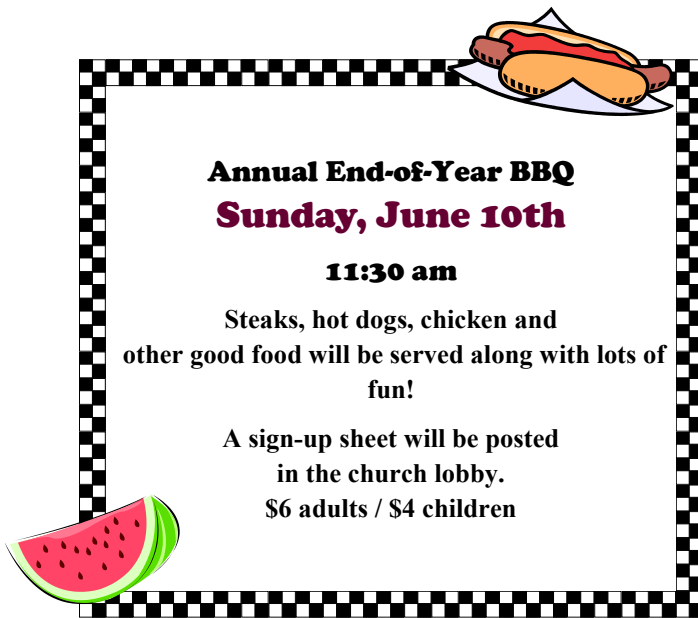
Pianist and CUC Music Director Adam Kent, performs
beloved works by Poland's legendary Romantic com-
poser.

Admission is a donation of \$20, \$10 for Seniors and Stu-
dents. For more information, call CUC at 914-946-1660,
ext. 8.

Saturday, June 23, 5:30 pm

WESTCHESTER CHAMBER SYMPHONY

On Saturday, June 23 at 5:30PM, CUC Music Director
Adam Kent can be heard in a benefit recital for the West-
chester Chamber Symphony at the New Rochelle Public
Library. The WCS is one of the finest orchestral ensem-
bles in the county and presents numerous concerts and
educational outreach program each year throughout the
area. Tickets are \$35, and the program will include sultry,
exciting music from Spain, as well as favorites by
Gershwin and Chopin. A reception will follow the per-
formance. Call 654-4WCO (4926) or write to
info@westchesterchambersymphony.org for more infor-
mation.



JUNETEENTH
Sunday, June 17th
10:15 am
Justice For Our Fathers

For this special Juneteenth Service we are inviting the lawyers and the family of Kenneth Chamberlain, the gentleman who was killed in White Plains by police. We will use this occasion to commemorate men who have been targeted by law enforcement.

We highly recommend attending if you have never participated in the Juneteenth Service.

Meditation - Method & Practice
June 3, 9 am

Have you ever been curious about meditation, but are not sure how to start? This class is for you. Taught by Jennifer Lewis.



**MIDNIGHT
 RUN**

**Friday,
 JUNE 15**
8 PM

Help feed the homeless in Manhattan. Provide clothing. Help with food preparation. This well organized event is a great way to help others and work with other CUC members and friends, from our youth to our grandparents.

For more information contact David Schuler at davidbf_schuler@yahoo.com or 831-5605.

GOT TEENS?

The CUC Parents of Teens group meets once per month to talk, share, laugh and cry about the “stuff” that comes up when your family includes teenagers. We welcome parents with teens that are currently in eighth grade and up. We meet once per month on alternate Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings in order to accommodate parents’ varying schedules. There is no need to attend every meeting, although we seek relatively regular participation to provide mutual support. Currently, we meet at CUC in the RE lobby. We ask that only one parent from each family attend. Please come and join us. Our upcoming meetings are:

➤ **Thursday, June 14, from 7:30PM-9:00PM.**

For further information and to sign up please e-mail Cynthia Roberts at cynthiaVroberts@gmail.com. Come chat with us!

Caring & Sharing Committee

Contact Astrid Rogers 949-0294 or Robert Youngman 948-2973 if you, or someone you know, is in need of help from the Caring & Sharing group. This includes home visits, help getting to doctor's appointments, help with food shopping if one is home bound, etc.

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

UU District of Metro NY 2012 Annual Meeting

This year I am excited to again be an off-site Delegate for General Assembly. As many of you know, General Assembly (GA) is in Phoenix, Arizona June 20-24. This year's GA focus is on Social Justice and Immigration. General Assembly is an exciting place to be but not everyone can afford to attend. So join me at CUC to view the plenary meetings, Opening Ceremony, Service of the Living Tradition and the Ware Lecture. See the General Assembly flyer on the bulletin board "UU's in the news" for times for viewing at CUC. All times are Eastern Time Zone and some of the times are very late at night. I'll be there so please join me. Or you can view GA via video streaming from your home computer. Look for that flyer at the entrance table for the home viewing GA schedule with times adjusted for the Eastern Time zone. You can test out your computer on last year's GA videos at the UUA website - www.uua.org/ga/2011 . If you have questions ask me how to do it. If you tried last year and were unsuccessful, I would be willing to stop by to help you set it up. I will be leading the worship service on July 15st about my reflections of this year's General Assembly. If you attend GA this year please contact me so you can also be part of the reflections in that service. Email me at denice.tomlinson@yahoo.com or call 914 310-0244.

Submitted by Denice Tomlinson

General Assembly Viewing at CUC in Room 41

Denice Tomlinson will be our off-site delegate. Come help her vote. Everyone is invited. Attend one, many or all sessions. Questions? Call Denice Tomlinson 914 310-0244

Wednesday, June 20, 2011

- **Opening Celebration and Plenary I**
10:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 23, 2011

- **Plenary II**
- **Worship: May all beings Be At Ease:
On Co-creation**
10:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Friday, June 24, 2011

- **Worship Together, Work Together for
Social Justice**
- **Plenary III**
10:45 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Service of the Living Tradition**
10:45 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 25, 2011

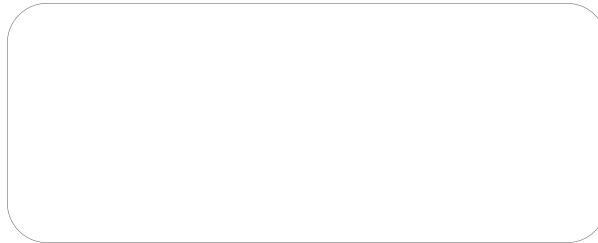
- **Worship : 50 Ways to Cross a Border**
10:45a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- **Plenary IV** 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- **Ware Lecture – Maria Hinojosa**
8:15 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.
- **Worship – Arizona Immigration Ministries**
10:30 p.m. - 12:45 a.m.

Sunday, June 26, 2011

- **Worship: Justice is Love in Action**
12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.
- **Plenary V**
5:15 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

~ June 2012 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 6p-9p Adam's Concert (7p) (SANC)
3 8:45a-10:15a Child Care (32) 8:45a-9:45a Choir Rehearsal (SANC) 9a-9:45a Meditation--method & practice 10a-11:30a Religious Ed 10:15a-11:45a FLOWER COMMUNIION 11:30a-12p Annual Meeting (SANC) 11:45a-1:15p In the Spirit of Truth (FH)	4 7p-8p Tai Chi (FH)	5 7:30p-9:15p Choir Rehearsal (SANC\,24)	6 7:30p-9p Program Council (41)	7	8	9
10 8:45a-10:15a Child Care (32) 8:45a-9:45a Choir Rehearsal (SANC) 10a-11:30a Religious Ed 10:15a-11:45a BRIDGING SERVICE 10:15a-11:35a Family Service 11:45a-2p CUC BBQ (FH\,Patio\,KTCH) 1:00 pm Search Committee Cottage Mtg	11 7p-8p Tai Chi (FH)	12	13 7:30p-9:30p Board of Trustees (41)	14 11:30a-1p Science and Spirituality (41) 7:30p-8:30p Par- ents of Teens (RE Lobby)	15 Midnight Run 8p- 2a (FH\,KTCH)	16
17 Communitarian Deadline 8:45a-10:15a Child Care (32) 10a-11:30a Child Care (R32) 10:15a-11:45a JUNETEENTH SERVICE 11:15a-11:45a Newcomers Orientation 11:45 Search Committee Cottage Mtg	18 7p-8p Tai Chi (FH) 8p-9:30p Finance Committee (41)	19	20	21 10a-11a COMMUNITARIAN mailing (FA)	22	23
24 10a-11:30a Child Care (R32) 10:15a-11:45a Worship/Coffee Hour 11:30a-12:30p Welcome Committee (43)	25	26	27 7:30p-9p RE Council (41)	28 11:30a-1p Science and Spirituality (41)	29	30

COMMUNITY UNITARIAN CHURCH
468 Rosedale Avenue
White Plains, NY 10605



If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, write 'refused' across your address and return it unopened. No postage is required.

Thank you

Our Cereal Drive was a resounding success!

The Children of CUC wish to express their thanks to everyone who contributed to the Cereal Drive these past few months. The White Plains Ecumenical Food Pantry was extremely grateful for our help. We collected 97 boxes of cereal!! This adds up to well over 1,000 breakfast meals for children and adults in need from our local community. What a wonderful outpouring of support!

Cash Donations

Also CUC sent \$3,350.00 to the Food Pantry on April 30th. This money will qualify for a portion of the Feinstein Matching Fund Program. Thanks to all who donated, and very special thanks to the generous donors.

