

# THE COMMUNITARIAN

## COMMUNITY UNITARIAN CHURCH AT WHITE PLAINS

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

JULY/AUGUST 2012



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

The Rev. Benjamin Maucere  
Interim Minister

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

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For more information  
about CUC:

[www.cucwp.org](http://www.cucwp.org)  
Email: [info@cucwp.org](mailto:info@cucwp.org)  
914.946.1660

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Communitarian Deadline for  
September Edition:  
**Wednesday, August 22**

Submit information to  
Emily Economou, Editor  
[emily.economou@gmail.com](mailto:emily.economou@gmail.com)

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### *In the Interim . . .*

The service on June 10 ran a bit long, so I edited a bit out of my sermon, *This Refulgent Summer*. Here's the part I left out:

The sense of summer as a respite, as a time to catch your breath is conveyed in this, From Barbara Crooker,

"In the Middle  
of a life that's as complicated as everyone else's,  
struggling for balance, juggling time.  
The mantle clock that was my grandfather's  
has stopped at 9:20; we haven't had time  
to get it repaired. The brass pendulum is still,  
the chimes don't ring. One day you look out the window,  
green summer, the next, and the leaves have already fallen,  
and a grey sky lowers the horizon. Our children almost grown,  
our parents gone, it happened so fast. Each day, we must learn  
again how to love, between morning's quick coffee  
and evening's slow return. Steam from a pot of soup rises,  
mixing with the yeasty smell of baking bread. Our bodies  
twine, and the big black dog pushes his great head between;  
his tail is a metronome, 3/4 time. We'll never get there,  
Time is always ahead of us, running down the beach, urging  
us on faster, faster, but sometimes we take off our watches,  
sometimes we lie in the hammock, caught between the mesh  
of rope and the net of stars, suspended, tangled up  
in love, running out of time."

So slow down, enjoy your refulgent summer. . . and please remember to gather  
some water from your summer journeys for our water communion on September  
9<sup>th</sup>!

*Yours in faith,  
Benjamin*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This is my first Communitarian article, having recently been elected Chair of the Board of Trustees. I am honored and excited to hold the position, and look forward to helping our beloved CUC move into the future. As our church year has recently wound down, I want to reflect on the successes of the past nine months, including:

- Reverend Benjamin joined us as Interim Minister last August and quickly had a positive impact. He reenergized the congregation, lifting spirits with his enthusiasm, humor, and thought-provoking sermons. He has helped the Board and the congregation move through the first phase of the interim process, reflecting on our history and thinking about our priorities.
- We had a very successful Giving Campaign, with new ideas, broader leadership, and more direct linkage to the Church's budget. The success was reflected in the numbers, as the total pledged amount for 2012-13 increased by almost 20% from the previous year.
- After a well considered selection process involving interviews and self-nominations, we selected and seated a very strong Search Committee to help us find our next settled minister. The committee represents a good cross section of congregants and includes members with proven abilities and demonstrative love of the church.
- We bid farewell to Lara Campbell mid-year, and thanks to the RE Council's efforts and Annie Gonzalez so ably filling in as RE Coordinator, the RE Program continued to operate smoothly in the spring. We capped the year with a Coming of Age service that included twenty young folks presenting their credos.
- Lily Rappaport was hired as Acting DRE and starts this August. She joins us from the Westport congregation, where she served as the Youth Program Director for three years.
- The renovation of the kitchen is moving ahead and should be done in the fall. Moreover, thanks to special fundraising efforts, we have raised \$104,000 towards the project's estimated \$168,000 total cost. These new funds will help us maintain most of the \$260,000 in the dedicated Building Fund.

It has indeed been a fruitful year, and I give special thanks to Janet Press, my predecessor, who led us with competence and heart during such an important transition year. In this season of graduations, I recycle my high school yearbook quote, from the basketball coach Denny Crum, "most of our future lies ahead of us." Enjoy the summer.

~ David Schuler, Board Chair

## SUMMER SERVICES 10:15 AM

### June 24

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

**July 1 Adine Usher:** "Value, Anxiety and Longing" Achieving Equity for Special-Needs Students.

**July 8 Randy Marshall:** "Reality, Spirituality and the Brain"

**July 15 Denice Tomlinson:** "Reflections of GA"

**July 22 Charles Lewis:** "The NSK State - A Universal State in Time"

**July 29 Pamela Cucinell:** "The Ultimate Taboo: Money"

**August 5 Dr. Anne Gooding:** "Sy Syms Got It Right"

**August 12 David Bowen:** "Gay Marriage: It's a Human Right not a Political Act"

**August 19 Carole Mehta:** "Spirituality in Nature: The Power To Transform our Lives"

**August 26 Paul Anderson Winchell:** "The Poverty Manifesto: The Renaissance of Compassion in America"

**September 2 Alan Trevithick:** "Interns and Labor Auctions and Inherent Worth and Dignity: What's our responsibility?"

# MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE



## MINISTERIAL SEARCH IN PROGRESS

The search for CUC's new minister is well underway. The first phase is gathering information about our congregation – who we are, what we believe, and what qualities are important in our next minister. That process has two parts: the congregational survey, filled out individually and anonymously, and the cottage meetings, where small groups discuss CUC's strengths and challenges, our goals for the future and the type of minister we need.

At this time, we are pleased to report that 140 members and friends have completed the survey. This is an outstanding response, but we can do better. In order to cast our net as wide as possible, **the survey deadline is extended to Monday June 25**. Please don't miss your opportunity to have your opinion on record – schedule 45 minutes to complete this vital congregational task.

Participation in the first cottage meetings on June 10 and June 17 was impressive – a total of 38 members and friends joined in the discussions. This format allows us to speak and listen, to consider together the best course for our congregation.

### **Additional cottage meetings are scheduled on:**

**Sunday June 24 at 11:30**

**Wednesday, June 27 at 7:00 pm**

**in Fellowship Hall.**

Additional cottage meetings will be scheduled over the summer and in September as needed.

What happens then? The search committee will compile the Congregational Record ("CR"), a formatted congregational profile based in part on the survey and cottage meeting responses. Again, your involvement is critical; the simple level of participation sends a message to potential ministerial candidates. Beginning in October, the UUA makes CRs available to ministers seeking congregations. The search then proceeds along a timeline set by the UUA. Look for more information in early fall. Right now is your turn to weigh in and influence the search process – please join in this communal act of faith.

Feel free to contact the search committee at [cucministersearch@gmail.com](mailto:cucministersearch@gmail.com) or speak to any one of us (contact information available at the church office).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Religious Education Council

Happy summer to all! My name is Cyndi Tillman and I will be the Chair of the RE Council for the coming year. I am excited about the coming year and the opportunity to work with our new Acting DRE Lily Rappaport when she begins this summer. I'm looking forward to new ideas for our program, but I'm also eager for her to experience the things we love and are proud of in our RE.

Before everyone settles into summer activity schedules or goes off on family vacations, we on the RE Council want to remind you of a few items - things that will help us get the next year off to a great start. If you have not registered for RE yet--PLEASE do so! This is the only way for us to know the enrollment we will have and get classes/teaching teams settled. Teachers-if you taught last year and are able/willing to teach next year-great! Please let us know if you have not done so already. The more of this information we have ready, the easier it will be for Lily to get started.

Last but not least, I would especially like to thank out-going REC chair Robin Rocchi for all that she has done over this past year, including the search and hiring process of the DRE. It has been an eventful year and her work has been truly invaluable. We could not have done it without her!

Enjoy the coming months and we will see you in September!

~ Cyndi Tillman  
RE Council Chair

### Caring & Sharing Committee

Contact Robert Youngman 948-2973 or Howard Garson 684-1908 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

**Denominational Affairs** – This summer don't forget to visit a UU church while on vacation or college tours. It is a great experience to visit another church while away and you never know who you might run into. It's also an opportunity to bring home new ideas and ways of welcoming visitors. Visiting another UU church exposes children to the UU world outside our congregation

**General Assembly (GA) 2012** was held in Phoenix AZ June 20-24. If you were not able to attend GA through live streaming video you can still watch videos on line at any time on the UUA website. <http://www.uua.org/ga/index.shtml> It will still be there for you to view. You can also purchase CDs or DVD of events and workshops at GA.

*Submitted by Denice Tomlinson*

## Praising Mary Cobb, CUC Member

### Senator Stewart-Cousins Honors Woman of Distinction, Dr. Mary Lane Cobb

Senator Stewart-Cousins honored Dr. Mary Lane Cobb, of Tarrytown, as a New York State Senate Woman of Distinction. Dr. Cobb and her husband traveled to Albany to accept the honor at the annual celebration.

The State Senate's Woman of Distinction award is a special honor bestowed upon women whose lives, work, or special accomplishments have contributed to making our communities better, our families stronger and serve as extraordinary examples to others.

"It is truly an honor to celebrate the life and achievements of Dr. Mary Lane Cobb," said Senator Stewart-Cousins. "She is a remarkable woman who has broken through barriers that are all too common for women and especially women of color. I am proud to honor Dr. Cobb as she was the first African-American woman to be named to a directorship within a Department of Westchester County Government."

Dr. Cobb moved to Westchester County after medical school to open her own practice. In 1977, she served as the Director of Women and Youth Services at the Westchester County Department of Health where she introduced mid-level practitioners into service delivery and the use of community workers for education and outreach.



## *Adam Kent and the Westchester Chamber Symphony*

Music of Chopin, Gershwin, Scarlatti and others

- When: **Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m.**

- Where: The New Rochelle Public Library

- Cost: \$35 per person, includes post recital reception of light refreshments in the lobby of the Library with the artist

- How to purchase tickets: Either on line, through the mail or at the door ( limited seating advanced purchase recommended )

## Got Photos?

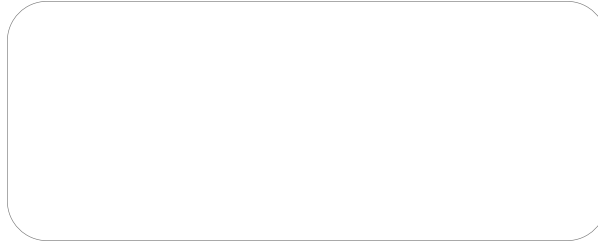
**The CUC website needs your photos. The Ministerial Search Committee needs your photos.**

Please send your photos of CUC events electronically to Emily Economou at [Emily.economou@gmail.com](mailto:Emily.economou@gmail.com)

Or place in the search committee in-box in the church office.

A picture says a thousand words....

COMMUNITY UNITARIAN CHURCH  
468 Rosedale Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10605



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

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## **WATER COMMUNION, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH**



For latest news and updates go to our website at [www.cucwp.org](http://www.cucwp.org). To stop receiving a hardcopy of this newsletter and to start receiving email announcements instead, please send an email to [admin@cucwp.org](mailto:admin@cucwp.org).