



Newsletter



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the
South Jersey Shore

Volume 11, Issue 02

February 2009

February Services

We meet at our UU Center, Pomona Rd and Lieb Big Street, Galloway NJ (near the north entrance to Richard Stockton College).
Services are at 10:00 am unless otherwise noted.

<p>February 1</p>	<p>Generations <i>Lay leader Barbara Clark</i> Life is a miraculous passage through amazing ages. What is there to look forward to in the next decade of your life? Come hear the viewpoint of different age cohorts.</p>
<p>February 8</p>	<p>Volunteer Sunday <i>The Reverend Rosemarie Newberry</i> It is that time again. We will be looking at the needs of our congregation and the gifts of the individuals. We will have some fun and also explore how nurturing, teaching, learning, hospitality, and listening are all spiritual practices. Let's grow our souls together.</p>
<p>February 15 10 am</p>	<p>Love is the Doctrine <i>The Reverend Rosemarie Newberry</i> "Love is the doctrine of this church, the quest of truth is its sacrament, and service is its prayer." Many congregations recite this affirmation every Sunday. The Rev. Rosemarie Newberry will explore the multiple meanings of love and analyze its applicability to a post modern and post Christian society. There will be special visitors that morning, joining us for both morning worship and afternoon celebration.</p>
<p>February 15 4:30 pm</p>	<p>Building Dedication <i>Guest minister The Reverend John Crestwell</i> The service will last approximately 1½ hours, followed by light refreshments. <i>Note: please park in the Stockton College lot if possible. Parking in the UU Center lot primarily for handicapped, and our special guests.</i></p>
<p>February 22</p>	<p>The Perfect Heart <i>Intergenerational service, led by Rev Newberry & Heidi Janssch</i> This intergenerational service will explore a community's need to find a new leader with a "perfect heart".</p>

Saturday, February 14 -- Valentine's Day Dance

Package Goods Orchestra will perform. Get out your dancin' shoes!!!!

Adult \$10, Teen \$5 at the door, \$8 and \$4 in advance.

Words from... The Reverend Rosemarie Newberry



“A thoroughly good relationship with ourselves results in being still, which doesn't mean we don't run and jump and dance about. It means there's no compulsiveness. We don't overwork, overeat, oversmoke, overseduce. In short, we begin to stop causing harm.”

— Pema Chödrön in *When Things Fall Apart*

This quote by a Buddhist nun that has a retreat center in Nova Scotia, made me stop and think. What is our relationship with ourselves? Do we realize that overworking, etc causes harm? We are concerned with not causing harm to the environment, being patient yet firm with the children, being understanding to co-workers and partners. The slogan, “do no harm”. YES! Of course, we agree with that and actively practice that. Well, except for ourselves.

Our lives are too full, and too frenzied. Some of you have been going and going, non-stop since the start of the building construction, and even before. I don't want you to continue to cause harm to yourself. Today is the day for you to begin to stop causing harm.

I am going to Orlando for a spiritual care conference for 4 days at the end of January and into February. The conference is only two days, but I am making sure that I have time to slow down. Pema has given me a renewed conviction and commitment to myself. I am leaving the computer at home. I will be practicing four days of “do no harm”.

Rosemarie has office hours on Tuesday mornings from 9 am to noon. Call the office at 609-965-9400 or send her email to make an appointment. She will also meet with folks in the evening, with an appointment.

**Reverend Newberry has her own email address :
minister@uucsjs.org**

About our Building Dedication Guest Speaker:

Rev. John T. Crestwell, Jr. serves as the Minister of Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church, located in Camp Springs, MD (in Prince George's County, just 10 miles from southeast Washington DC). He is active in a growth plan to assist the church in expanding into a multiracial congregation. Under his leadership, Davies nears being 40% diverse.

John currently serves on three boards: the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry (UULM), the National Cancer Institute Review Board, and the uua's Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF). John is author of the book, *Conversations: The Hidden Truth That Keeps The World From Being At Peace*, published in 2001, and also *Charge of the Chalice*, his newest book, which tells the story of Davies' growth and diversity.

He is also an adjunct professor at Potomac College in Washington, DC, teaching Comparative Religion, African American History, and Public Speaking.

What's Happening in the Joseph Priestly District?

“Kindling the Flame”

February 21, 2009

sponsored by the

Philadelphia Wilmington Growth Team.

Barbara Clark and Mariann Maene plan to attend. We can **carpool to the UU Church of Delaware County** in Media, PA. A great opportunity to meet other UUs and think about strengthening our strategic planning, annual budget drive, and capital campaign.

2009 JPD Spring Conference:

April 24-25, 2009

Wilmington, DE

“Navigating Changing Times”

Our own **Reverend Newberry, Allison Woolbert and Prim Reeves** will be making presentations this year.

**REFLECTIONS FROM
UUCSJS PRESIDENT
PAUL UTTS**

We have arrived. This month, on the tenth anniversary of our very first service, together we will celebrate and dedicate our new building. After we had our first service on February 14, 1999, at Jordan Road School in Somers Point, our thoughts immediately turned to this day. All things seemed possible, our energy limitless, our faith in each other and ourselves, boundless. If we had truly known the hurdles that lay

ahead, frankly, I think we would still be renting. The fact that we made it to this day, in many ways, is nothing short of miraculous. For me the journey from that day to this has deepened my faith in a way I wouldn't have imagined, because I came to this group for the sole purpose of getting my children a religious education.

I have always prided myself on being self-sufficient. My trust in others was restricted to my most intimate relationships. My opinion of the world at large, though not pessimistic, was certainly jaded. I think in our instant media age where stories of human faults are constant, I was not alone in this opinion. And with good reason -- growing up as a post World War II baby-boomer, we have all witnessed human-perpetrated destruction of our world and each other. Even as our instant media points out our "inhumanity," we watch and sometimes participate in its perpetuation. Many turn to a higher power for comfort and hope, but the refuge of the mystical never worked for me.

The decade before joining UUCSJS, I found a temporary way to restore my faith in humanity: community theater. In theater, a group works very hard together toward a common purpose and in the end puts it on display. People clap and stand up; it's very gratifying. When the show is over, I would go into what I called post-play depression, after working so hard with a group of people, becoming very close, then *BAM!* -- it's back to the real world. The only things left behind are photographs and memories. I know people who feel the same way after the Super Bowl -- different medium, similar distraction.

I came here as part of the process of raising my children. I valued my UU upbringing; always feeling it opened my mind, not just about matters of faith, but in applying reason to the world at large. Growing up, my UU experience provided me with the tools of skepticism. This served me well through the years, but I did not realize it might have also hindered me. A life without faith is similar, I think, to a life without love. Both involve risking emotion that can lead to profound disappointment. Many in our group who grew up in other faith traditions know this disappointment deeply and bear the scars.

My journey these last ten years with you all has given me faith, not renewed faith, but a faith I never possessed; faith in my fellow humans. Faith founded on serving each other; that we can work together toward a common purpose and achieve very positive, lasting deeds. Our building is just a symbol of this faith, but a very tangible symbol. I look forward to celebrating this symbol of faith in each other.

On February 13, 2000, we celebrated our Charter Sunday. We had held services for one year and were recognized as a member of the UUA community. We had our first Minister, Rev. Doddie Stone, and at our Charter Sunday service, we felt confident, naively, that all things were possible. Yet in reflection, it is only through a series of seemingly random, disconnected events that we have come to this Building Dedication. There are people who have joined us since Charter Sunday, who made our UU Center possible. There were events that seemed like hardships at the time that strengthened our resolve to make The UU Center a reality. The generosity and sacrifice of people's spirit and energy, working toward this common purpose, not giving to get, but giving to each other, has helped me look at the world as if all things good are possible. Our UU Center will continue to help children and adults alike find their purpose in a dogma-free environment that celebrates faith in each other and ourselves. So this month let's dance and sing together, celebrating what we have accomplished. We now have the UU Center to do the work that we know must be done. Peace, environmental and social justice will not happen without effort, but neither did this building. My journey with this community has brought me inspiration and fulfillment beyond measure. So let's celebrate! Welcome old friends and new, dance and sing, be grateful and give thanks, as we pause on our journey that is just beginning.



Meet New Members . . .

Allison Woolbert

Allison Woolbert came from a fundamentalist Christian background, having grown up in a rural farming and mining community in the southwest. From those beginnings, a young Dennis Woolbert attended Bible Camp and eventually a Church of Christ ministerial school at Abilene Christian University in Texas, trying to conform to the dogmatic faith of his family and church. But the future unfolded very differently for young Dennis. From as early as the age of five, he knew that inside, he was truly female.

As a child, Dennis would sneak into his mother's closet and try on her clothes and makeup; at that point, he did not realize that he was any different from other little boys. As he grew, so did his realization of his true nature, and thus, *her* life has been a constant struggle with appearing outwardly a male, but being female inside. There have been recent studies to support the idea that this is a genetic condition. She would secretly dress in feminine clothing, which she hid in her tree fort, until her mother found her stash and directed her into the ministry to "save his soul from hell."

There were periods in Allison's life in which she genuinely clung to her fundamentalist beginnings, denying her femininity and true self. However, this ultimately proved far too stressful to bear for long periods. After early failures at marriage, Allison eventually married Suzanne. Their love held them close for over 13 years. By then, Allison had three grown children from a previous marriage, and two young children with Sue.

Allison's life-altering decision to find strength to become her true self finally came to fruition with the UUCSJS, whom she notes has given her a warm and accepting reception. Not all areas of her life have been as amenable, though. She has lost work because of her having come out, for example. She and Sue have split amicably, and Allison continues to maintain loving relationships with her young children, Lauren, seven, and Bryan, ten. Lauren is perfectly open to Allison's being female, and still loves her "dad." Bryan, being older, has difficulty with Allison's having declared herself. Still, the main concern of both Allison and Sue remains the health and happiness of their children.

What does the future hold for Allison? She has been taking hormone therapy and is seeking to raise the money to fund the complex round of surgical procedures (close to \$20,000). Allison is committed to raising awareness of transgenderism. She emphasizes that transgenderism is not a "choice," but is genetically predetermined.

For many years, Allison was founding CEO of her own computer programming consulting firm; she also built cabinetry, and has since sold that business. In addition to her determination to educate people about transgenderism, Allison is now developing a greater interest in cooking and writing. She serves as a life coach and provides Reiki therapy, studying both to gain greater expertise. About our congregation, she says that "the best day of my week is Sunday, here." And she notes that with the UUCSJS she feels safe, warm, and

"embraced by everyone." And we are gratefully enriched by Allison's having joined us!

TJ Jansch

Raised as a Lutheran, TJ (short for "Tom Junior") was introduced to Unitarian Universalism a few years ago when his wife Heidi began attending services with their two children, Jesse, age 12, and Carly, 10. His resistance to joining other religious communities was expressed as, "I don't really believe in that whole God thing," but he was drawn to UUism by our congregation's casual atmosphere and the idea of being part of a community that does not insist upon a creed. In addition, he explains, "You people make my wife happy."

Although his main source of spiritual fulfillment occurs while fresh-water bass fishing, he has become more and more involved with UUCSJS over the past year, and enjoys attending services and social functions, especially when dancing is involved. TJ assists in the Children's Religious Education program and often provides childcare when the RE moms get together socially, a happy consequence of being married to our Coordinator of Religious Education.

TJ is a builder, running his own company under the name TJ Jansch General Carpentry. He was pleased to be able to contribute to the construction of our new UU Center by installing, along with his dad, the tile work in the building's bathrooms, kitchen and vestibule. TJ proposed and donated the pebble "welcome mat" in the entryway in homage to our dropping the pebbles in the water for joys and concerns (the ritual that was responsible for Heidi's joining the congregation).

TJ's father recently had a stroke, and he was greatly comforted to have the care and concern of the congregation during this difficult time. He looks forward to many happy times as a member of UUCSJS and thinks it is about time we have another dance.

Marianne Markarian and Sage

It's still there in her voice -- even after years of living in southern Florida, Los Angeles and southern New Jersey -- Marianne is most definitely a Bostonian, born and raised. After receiving a fine arts degree from the University of Massachusetts at Boston, she earned her graduate degree in occupational therapy from the University of Southern California. Marianne has been an occupational therapist for 12 years and spent more than five years earning her certification as a hand therapist, specializing in treating the entire upper extremity for various types of dysfunction caused by disease or injury.

Her career choice was inspired by her disabled aunt Grace (for whom 8-year-old daughter Sage Grace is named). "She was a very spiritual woman and a bilateral amputee above the knee. She valued her therapist, and their relationship showed me what therapy can do both physically and spiritually," Marianne recalls.

Growing up Catholic in Boston, Marianne never felt comfortable with the church's values. She veered away from organized

religion but began to think about it again while in a 12-step addiction recovery program. "Looking for a higher power led me to look into Buddhism and meditation," she says. "I was looking for guidance; I went to various tea ceremonies and meditated with a monk but didn't really join a community."

By the time she visited UUCSJS nearly two years ago, Marianne had nearly given up on finding a spiritual community for her and her daughter. She says, "I was looking for a community that would allow us the freedom to discover our own personal truths -- that wouldn't tell us what to believe and worship, but that would allow us to learn and grow. I feel this church is exactly what we were looking for."

As part of her own journey, Marianne is proud to note that she's been in recovery for nearly 10 years. She still attends meetings to serve as support for those newly recovering from addiction. "I want to be there, opening doors for others, making them feel welcome, and showing them what's possible," she says, adding "There are a lot of meetings in this area but it would be good to start one here for people who don't want to focus on God as part of their recovery."

Marianne and Sage share a deep commitment to animal rights that includes activism and a commitment to a diet that is vegan (for Marianne) and vegetarian (for Sage). They enjoy skiing, travel, art, music, and theater. Sage, creative and energetic, sings and had a role in a recent community production of *It's a Wonderful Life*, staged at Atlantic Cape Community College. Marianne also enjoys writing and photography and says she is currently working on a memoir about her time of addiction and her recovery.

Marianne moved to South Jersey from Los Angeles a little more than 10 years ago. "I decided to head east until I hit water," she says. Her intent was to take a job in New York, but thankfully, fate had other plans. Now, Marianne feels more rooted in South Jersey than she has anywhere else in her life. Everything is coming together from her career at Star Rehab in Linwood to her participation in UUCSJS to Sage's enjoyment of school. She has even begun house hunting.

A warm welcome to Marianne and Sage -- and may we all continue to learn and grow together!

Judy Pereira

Judy grew up in Southern California where family life centered on the ocean and small cruising sailboats. Religion was not a part of the picture. She attended Antioch College in Ohio, where she met her future husband, Stephen Taber, a Philadelphia Quaker. After graduation, they lived in places determined by Steve's pursuit of his doctoral degree, and while he was studying at the University of Chicago, Judy, inspired by JFK's call for service, became a tutor with Catalyst for Youth.

In 1967 Judy's husband took a job as visiting lecturer at Makerere University College in Kampala, Uganda. During five years there, Judy was occupied with her two young sons, Colin and Patrick, the latter born in Uganda. Judy relates an unusual triumph in her life in Africa. She and Steve became active in the Uganda Motor Club, organizing and competing in

rallies, autocrosses, and the like. Judy was named Novice Rally Navigator of the Year in 1970; in 1971, Uganda's Expert Navigator of the Year. "A rally navigator deciphers route instructions and makes time-speed-distance calculations on the fly, while the driver speeds over awful dirt roads way out in the 'bush' somewhere," she explains. The majority of rally enthusiasts were so-called "Asians" -- middle class Indians and Pakistanis -- and when Idi Amin "Da-Da" summarily kicked the Asians out of the country in 1971, Judy was able to help some of these friends emigrate to Canada and America.

The Tabers returned in 1972 and settled in Philadelphia where Judy became a teaching assistant at Germantown Friends School. Unfortunately, the family had difficulty re-adjusting to life in the States and after 20 years of marriage, sadly in 1981 Judy and Steve amicably separated and divorced.

Wanting to discover a fresh occupation, Judy joined other women in a class loosely based on the book *What Color Is Your Parachute?* and settled on the production side of publishing. Taking the first real job offered, she began what was in truth an apprenticeship in the graphic arts and the new field of computer-aided typesetting. It was a phenomenal fit, combining perceptual and language skills. Off and running, after a few years working for others she opened Lexicon Typography & Design with a partner, Charles Pereira.

In 1987 Judy and Charles were married. He took an early retirement, intending to help turn Lexicon into a full-service agency for graphic arts computer users. Unfortunately, a diagnosis of non-Hodgkins lymphoma in 1991 altered the future. He died in 1995. Now a sole proprietor, Judy continued on with Lexicon, living and working in Center City Philadelphia. She began attending Spanish classes regularly to fulfill a lifelong ambition, went on several Elderhostel trips, and took up the ukulele again after a few years' hiatus.

In 2005 Judy moved to New Jersey and bought a house in Absecon with her younger son, Patrick, with future plans to build a mother-in-law cottage on the property. Patrick is a graduate of Stockton College and currently works as a Youth Case Manager for Family Service Association. Her older son Colin is married with two sons, ages 13 and 11. The family lives in Manhattan, where Colin works for American Express and at night, plays guitar professionally.

Judy has barely begun to tap new interests in her South Jersey home. She has a growing fascination with birding. She exercises with Silver Sneakers several times a week. Over the summer and fall, Judy was a regular volunteer at our building, doing needed landscaping jobs and painting.

Judy found our congregation about a year ago. She says that finding us was serendipitous, searching as she was for a compatible larger community to become part of and contribute to, where she could be comfortable as a non-theist and able to explore the values-based beliefs she holds strongly. We are so fortunate that she has joined us. Welcome, Judy.

Buy **Gift Cards** any Sunday for **Acme & Shoprite**.
Using these gift cards for groceries nets the congregation 5%. Buy at the Social Justice table.
We also have Fair Trade coffee and tea!

Board Notes – January 14, 2009

The Board actually met twice in January, most recently to develop rental policies for our new Center. At our regular meeting, we heard from Victor Maene on the solar panels being installed on our roof. The way the panels will be mounted will not compromise the integrity of the shingles. With these 60 solar panels, our electric bills will be considerably lower, and contribute to the “greenness” of our building.

Also discussed were our Dedication Weekend: the dance on Saturday, February 14 with Package Goods Orchestra playing, and the two services on Sunday, particularly “high church” in the afternoon at which we expect people from the community attending.

UUCSJS members have been or are being invited to local meet-and-greets with the Reverend Newberry that are taking place in the homes of Board members. Those already held have been very useful, and our minister is getting to know members better.

Other topics under discussion included Interweave and the Welcoming Congregation; building cleaning contracts; the JPD Spring Conference (at which the Reverend Rosemarie, Prim Reeves, and Allison Woolbert have all had presentation proposals accepted); small group ministry; and standing and ad hoc committee reports.

Taxtime

If you donated \$100 or more in the 2008 calendar year to our Building Fund and/or our Operating Fund, you should have received by now a letter from Prim, our Treasurer. These letters were distributed at our Sunday service on January 25. If you were not present (or forgot to pick up yours), it was mailed to you on the 26th.

If you have questions about the letter or its content, contact Prim.

UUCSJS Board of Trustees 2008-2009	
Kathie Benner 09 <i>Secretary</i>	Primrose Reeves 10 <i>Treasurer</i>
Debbi Dagavarian 10	Paul Utts 09 <i>President</i>
Jim Gentile 10	Karen Zindell 09
Richard Grzywinski 10 <i>Vice President</i>	

* date given is end of term,
e.g. **10** means thru 6/30/2010

UUBookLovers News

The book group will meet on Friday, February 20 at 7 pm at the UU Center library. Jesse Connor will be facilitating a discussion of *Waiting For Snow In Havana: Confessions of a Cuban Boy* by Carlos Eire. The author was one of the 14,000 children airlifted out of Cuba, without their parents, and deposited in Miami in 1960-62. His deeply moving memoir describes his life before Castro, among the aristocracy of old Cuba, and later in America. Anyone is welcome to join in the discussion. For more information, or to get on our email list, contact Helene Gentile.

MARGARET CIRCLE There are going to be some changes in Margaret Circle this year. We will no longer be a ladies luncheon group. Our new meeting time will be from 1 pm to 3 pm on the first Thursday of each month. In the spirit of inclusiveness, women attending our meetings will no longer be expected to have any affiliation with our congregation. All are welcome.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 5 at 1 pm, at the UU Center in the downstairs Lounge. The topic for discussion will be “For Good Self-control, Try Getting Religious About It” by John Lierney. If you haven't received a copy see Prim Reeves or Kathryn Kelley at Sunday Service on February 1.

Prim will also be hosting this month so please RSVP to her so she will know how many to prepare for.

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In June 2009, the election of the next UUA President will occur at our General Assembly in Salt Lake City, Utah. You have a chance to attend a forum to meet the Candidates and ask questions about the future of the UUA. Please register at: <https://www.formdesk.com/uiforms/CandidatesWeekend>

Meet Candidates
Peter Morales and Laurel Hallman

Saturday, February 14, 10 am
(coffee and bagels ready at 9:30 am)
UU Congregation of Monmouth County
1475 W Front St, Lincroft NJ 07738

For more information, visit the UUA Election website: <http://www.uua.org/aboutus/governance/elections/>

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ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A SPIRITUAL BUFFET

Our Unitarian Universalist faith speaks to the importance of a "free and responsible search for truth and meaning." We believe that this search for truth begins as soon as a child can think and continues throughout his or her entire lifetime.

- As adults, we never stop exploring.
- We never stop discovering new kinds of thinking and new challenges to our thoughts.
- We never stop needing new ways to express our beliefs.
- We never stop uncovering new aspects of the wonder and mystery of the world.
- We never stop facing difficult ethical dilemmas.
- We never stop learning how much we do not know.

One of the many joys of establishing a broad scope for our Adult Religious Education Programs is that we can offer a "spiritual buffet" to help meet the spiritual and educational needs of our diverse congregation and communities.

Our "buffet" presently includes the following Adult Religious Education learning opportunities:

Brigid (Candlemas): A time of inspiration, poetry, and healing. Led by **Theresa McReynolds**. Monday, February 2, 7 pm at our UU Center. A sign-up sheet is located on the "name tag table" in our entranceway. Bring a snack and a candle. Everyone is welcome.

Discovering Your Ministry, led by **Marsha Hannah, Colby Tippins**, and **Karen York** will be offered again in February. A 4-week course encourages people to explore their unique gifts and talents. It is meant to help identify your call to make a difference and put expression to your calling.

The Healing Power of Music, led by **Barbara Miller**, will explore the healing power of music through singing, toning, chanting, listening, silence, and movement. One hour sessions, offered twice a month (dates TBA).

Labyrinth Workshop, led by **Margaret Rea** (dates TBA).

"**The Power of Now**" workshop, a Buddhist exploration led by **Alan Oliver** with **Pam Altaffer**, Saturday, March 7.

Principles & Purposes: UUA Revisions, led by **Barbara Clark** and **Prim Reeves**, in March.

Interplay Workshop led by **Pam Altaffer**. Involves the use of movement, storytelling, and voice to balance mind and body. Saturday, April 4, 10 am to 12 noon.

Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice. The 2008-2012 UUA National Study/Action Question -- led by **Karen York** and **Rev Newberry** in May 2009.

NEW PROGRAM PLANNING

And, we invite you to come and join our **Adult RE Committee** (first Sunday of each month after Services) as we think about new programs that are now in the proposal stage:

Earth-Centered Traditions: History, Inspiration and Spiritual Teachings led by **Theresa McReynolds**.

Liberal Film Viewing and Discussion Group, proposed by **Karen Zindell**.

Stress Management in a Recession: Relaxation Techniques, Personal Fiscal Management, Couples Harmony.

A Singles Group: share your challenges, get to know each other.

-- Barbara J Clark, Chair, Adult Religious Education

Children's Religious Education

Our new building is providing our Children's Religious Education program with room to expand. We now have the space to present some new activities and opportunities for our children, families and our congregation members.

Youth Group: In addition to a regularly scheduled programming, we are also in the process of beginning a monthly youth group. On February 27 from 7-9 pm, a Youth Game Night will serve as the kick-off for this new venture. All UUCSJS youth ages 11-16 are invited to attend for fun and socializing, and also to plan future meetings and see what direction they would like the group to take. See Heidi or Theresa McReynolds if you have any questions.

Toddler Room: Our toddler room is now complete! The CRE Committee has decided that any future RE children, infants to age 3, will be lovingly supervised in the toddler room by an adult volunteer assisted by one of our teens. If you are interested in being one of these adult volunteers, please see Heidi to be added to the volunteer list.

Parenting Course: Our kids are great, but let's not forget the folks who helped make them so. Starting in March, all parents of UUCSJS students are encouraged to attend a 5-session UUA course titled **Being a UU Parent** on Wednesday evenings throughout the spring at the UU Center (3/11, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22 and 5/6 at 6:30 pm). The sessions include discussions of values, family life, resources for UUism in the home, holidays and celebrations, and living out our beliefs. Watch for more info this month, or speak to Heidi.

Mystery Pals: We are excited to be doing our Mystery Pal program once again this year. Being a Mystery Pal offers our adult congregation members the opportunity to become acquainted with the youth in the community. You get to know them, and they get to know you! Information and sign-up sheets will be available this month, and our Mystery pal exchange will run from March 8 thru April 26. Speak to Katy Cardwell if you have any questions about Mystery Pals.

Superstars: Thanks to all who assisted in our Children's RE classes and/or provided healthy snacks in January:

Barbara Clark	Karen Zindell	Melissa Hutchison
Katy Cardwell	Marie Taylor	Deb Giacomoni
Jennifer Scott	Michael Cluff	Theresa McReynolds
Jessie Aprill	Paige Sturts	Tom Celandine
Jon Luomo	Pam Hendrick	Victor & Mariann Maene

-- Heidi Jansch, CoRE (Coordinator of RE)

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore

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February 2009

Visit us on the Web: www.uucsjs.org

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