



THE NICEST GIFTS I EVER GOT  
by the Rev. Clarke Dewey Wells

*I am pleased to relinquish my little corner of the newsletter for this message from one of the best-loved Unitarian ministers of the 20th century, Clarke Dewey Wells. He died in 2006. —Jeff*

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During this season of gift giving, a good exercise is to make a list of the best gifts we ever got. That will tell us what is important, for ourselves and for people we want to give gifts to.

While I remember a Daniel Boone hat and a magician set with special affection, the nicest gifts I ever got are in quite another category: the carillonneur at Rockefeller Chapel who let me strike one of the largest tuned bells in the world during his playing of Ein Feste Burg; my mother giving me a complete Shakespeare for my 14th birthday; coach Al Terry saying "Little Wells, grab your bonnet," and permitting me to enter as a freshman into my first varsity football game; a beautiful lady on a ship when I was still an acned teenager who kissed my face all over and told me she thought I was handsome; Dr. Henry Nelson Wieman telling me he had thought for several hours about a question I had raised and responding with a written answer the next day in front of the whole class; night after night my father playing catch with me in the back yard until it got so dark we couldn't see the ball; a Unitarian minister in Kalamazoo who put his arm around me after my father died and kept it there for a long time; a friend who flew several hundred miles to visit me when I was sick; a buddy who went to see three movies with me on the same day.



The nicest gifts people have given me have been enabling, confirming gifts, bestowing understanding and self-esteem, help in time of trouble and delight for ordinary days.

May I suggest that you, too, draw up your list of the nicest gifts you ever received. I think it will give some perspective to the kind of gifts we really want to give to others, this Christmas or anytime.

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SUNDAY SERVICES ♦ 11:00 AM

December 7th ♦ *FROM ISOLATION TO FREEDOM*

Maurine Olin leads this service with the Rev. David Carnish preaching. David has been doing a lot of reading lately around issues of anxiety and isolation and which of those conditions is more appropriate to change. Learn more about David on p. 4.

December 14th ♦ *IS HOPE REALLY THAT HARD?*

The Rev. Jeff Briere leads this service and he says, "I had always thought that despair was easy and hope was a lot of work. After sixty years of hoping, now I am not so sure. Or maybe I'm stronger now."

December 21st ♦ *WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS?*

The Rev. Jeff Briere leads this service, which is inspired by an essay of the Rev. Waldemar Argow, a Unitarian minister of the mid-20th century. It will be comprised of several poems, carols, and readings appropriate to the season.

December 24th ♦ *CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE*

See p. 4 for more information about this intergenerational service.

December 28th ♦ *SEEKING THE BOTTOM LINE*

Steve Hollingsworth leads this service with David Pope, musician and entrepreneur, preaching. In David's worldview, human spirituality is not a supernatural force but a precious creation of evolution. We are saved in the here and now by nurturing the spirit in the right way.

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SUNDAY FORUMS

Everyone is invited to attend the Forum, which meets downstairs in the last room on the left on Sundays at 9:30 am. **The Forum will not meet on December 28.**

**December 7 ~ *End of Life Issues.*** How should one face the prospect on one's own death and other issues? Dr. Don Klinefelter is retired from the UTC Department of Religion and Philosophy and is an active member of Pilgrim Congregational Church. He speaks frequently both in Chattanooga and elsewhere, often on the subject of medical ethics. This will be the third session of the series he began in September on *Muddles, Meaning & Spirituality in Midlife.*

**December 14 ~ *Are We Running Out of Water?*** -- Richard Ralston, Blake Moore, and others lead this forum. To make for a more knowledgeable discussion, Richard asks that we all do research on this growing world-wide crisis.

**December 21 ~ *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*** Since being signed by the United Nations on December 10 sixty years ago, this statement has had tremendous influence on international relationships. Charlie Clements, president of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, discussed it when he was with us last month.

**December 28 ~ *No Forum today.*** Happy Holidays!

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INTERLUDE

Interlude is the midweek service that meets on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm. The services are designed to quiet an over-active mind, to focus on one concept, and to permit some regeneration in the middle of the week. All are invited.

December 10: *Ambiguous Universe*  
December 17: *Cold Season*

December 31: *Anger*

THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB REDUX  
by Daidee Springer and Steve Hollingsworth

*Gratitude is one of the least articulate of the emotions, especially when it is deep.*  
-Felix Frankfurter

We can't put the thrill of a lifetime in a few hundred words. We hope that the hugs given and received, the gratitude profusely, if awkwardly, given and returned, and the connections made with love and a sense of common purpose will point to the peaks of emotion where words fail.

Daidee began the grand adventure to turn North Carolina blue without Steve. In Charlotte she met Lenda, who became her canvassing partner for an extended weekend. Kevin Xu, Obama's Charlotte field organizer, was apparently delighted with their energy and effectiveness: He made them promise to return and work through election day.

Lenda and Daidee, with Steve along this time, hit the road again on November 1st. Arriving in Charlotte on Sunday, we were bowled over to learn Obama was coming to town Monday for a rally at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte! Early Sunday afternoon as we canvassed her neighborhood, an African-American woman gave Daidee a hug and blessed her profusely for what she was doing. Steve got similar treatment minutes later further down the street. How are we supposed to acknowledge such gratitude? When we work on something like this, merely knowing our own lives depend on it would be sufficient.

On Monday, Kevin Xu dispatched us to the downtown headquarters to be part of a group of experienced canvassers designated to call high-priority undecided voters. But Kevin was keeping a secret.

With only a moment of heightened activity—a horde of cameras and a boom microphone appearing—to telegraph the surprise, Barack Obama walked in the back door and the room erupted.

He graciously greeted each of us, repeating our names and where we were from. Daidee hugged him (as seen on CNN) and

Lenda got her picture with him on the front page of Tuesday's New York Times. We forgave Kevin when we missed the rally later that day.

Election night, we finally relaxed with our wonderful hosts, Phil and June and their son, Austin. As Barack made his victory speech and we heard him promise his girls a puppy was coming to the White House, even Dawson, our hosts' goldendoodle, seemed an indispensable part of the celebratory toasts and hugs all 'round.

On Wednesday, we came back to Chattanooga and part way back down to earth. The "Post-Election, Reconnection, Decompression, True Confession" open mike night at the church helped us understand how much had changed in a day, as well as how much our connections in the church community didn't change and how much they matter in our lives. Let's all give ourselves a big hug.



*Daidee Springer receiving a hug from now-president-elect Barack Obama at his Charlotte headquarters.*

*Bless our country, that it may always be a stronghold of peace, and its advocate among the nations.*

~Central Conference of American Rabbis

The articles in *the nUUsletter* are representative of the diverse and varied opinions and beliefs of the members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UUC).

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Please join us for a **Christmas Eve Service** on **December 24th** at **5 pm**.

The service will feature the choir, stories, and lights. Rumor has it that Santa may take time out of his busy schedule to greet us and dispense his brand of Christmas cheer. For the first time, we will use our new screen and projector when the choir sings "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

Our traditional candle light "Silent Night" will end the service.

This is an intergenerational service. No childcare will be provided—all ages are welcome to attend.

### GUEST SPEAKER

David Carnish, our guest speaker on December 7, is a native of Milledgeville, Georgia. He earned a BA from Valdosta State College and a Masters of Divinity degree from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY.

While in seminary, he was an associate pastor at a local church and served as a chaplain to a sixty bed nursing home. After his seminary experience, he became a chaplain resident in a clinical

pastoral education program in Columbia, SC for two years. Since completing his pastoral training program he has served as a staff chaplain, interim pastor, and clinical pastoral education supervisor in Columbia, SC and San Francisco, CA.

Currently, he serves as clinical pastoral education supervisor for the Chattanooga Association for Clinical Pastoral Care. His office is located at Erlanger's main Baroness Campus.

### MINISTER'S OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to an open house at the minister's residence on **Saturday, December 13th** from **2 to 4 pm**.

Why? Kate says the season is the reason. This is a casual affair and everyone is welcome, oldsters, youngsters, whoever. The address is 3614 Lerch Street, just a half-mile from the church. Ask Jeff or Kate or Chris in the office for directions.

Please come and enjoy some seasonal cheer, some camaraderie and the best Christmas music in Brainerd. To quell your afternoon munchies and quench your shopped-out thirst, you may enjoy hot chocolate (not cocoa!), mulled wine, light hors-d'oeuvres, and cookies.

Joyeux Noël!

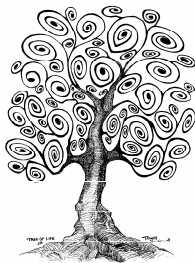
### PAGAN PERSPECTIVE

#### Dates of Interest in December

- 7 Study Group - 9:30 am - Topic: Winter Festivals
- 12 Full Moon
- 21 Winter Solstice/Yule
- 27 New Moon

#### Winter Solstice

At the Winter Solstice, we celebrate Children's Day to honor our children and to bring warmth, light and cheerfulness into the dark time of the year. Holidays such as this have their origin as "holy days". They are the way human beings mark the sacred times in the yearly cycle of life.



shortest day of the year, the sun is at its lowest and weakest, a pivot point from which the light will grow stronger and brighter. This is the turning point of the year.

In pagan Scandinavia, the winter festival was the *yule* (or *juul*). Great yule logs were burned, and people drank mead around the bonfires listening to minstrel-poets singing ancient legends. It was believed that the yule log had the magical effect of helping the sun to shine more brightly.

Mistletoe--which was sacred because it mysteriously grew on the most sacred tree, the oak--was ceremoniously cut and a spray given to each family to be hung in the doorways as good luck. To hang it over a doorway or in a room was to offer goodwill to visitors. Kissing under the mistletoe was a pledge of friendship.

In the northern latitudes, midwinter's day has been an important time for celebration throughout the ages. On this

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UUPDATE**  
by *Jamie Sullivan, Director of Religious Education*

**A Unitarian Universalist Holiday Ritual**

It's holiday season again, and a wonderful time to begin family rituals. Our Religious Education program is offering a wonderful opportunity for parents to be creative in their homes by engaging in a ritual with the **Guest at Your Table** boxes, part of our project with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. In our classes, we dedicated two consecutive Sundays in late November to the topic of bringing more justice and love into this world through the act of giving. Some of your children created decorative mats for their boxes to rest on and are very excited about their new dinner time guest!

Bringing rituals such as these into our homes throughout the year is very important for the comfort and security of our children. It is a great time to remind ourselves what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist through integrating this simple but important box into your family dinner time.

Upcoming Events:

**December 21 ~ Religious Education Holiday Party** following the service.

We will make 7 principles ornaments & create a labyrinth.

**December 21 ~ The Winter Solstice Walking Labyrinth**

The Medievals are hosting a gift for the whole congregation. Who are the Medievals? It's the 9-13 year olds with a giving spirit! After service on 12/21/08, the Medieval group will stay late to arrange a walking labyrinth in the sanctuary. You are then invited to come back to the church anytime between 5:30 and 7pm to welcome/celebrate the arrival of the Winter Solstice. This is a quiet, meditative time to move gently through the labyrinth and think of how winter's light and darkness may bring change to your life this season. Come receive your gift from our Medieval Youth. Shalom.

**Sat. January 3 ~ Medieval Lock-In (ages 9-13)**

The Lock-in will begin at 7:00 pm with an 11:00 story time/bedtime. Children can be picked up Sunday morning before service (or following if parents are attending service). Children younger than 9 can only attend if a parent is present and helping with event.

**February 8<sup>th</sup>** we will create **Valentine cards** to take to an assisted living home.

**Spring Volunteer sign-up dates are available this month!**

**FROM THE TEEN GROUP**

As part of their year-long exploration of Unitarian Universalism (UU), the teen group has been discussing the history of UU. They learned that religion was an early form of crowd control, which sparked a discussion among the group. **Kate Hoyt** responded with an insightful statement, which she elaborated for *the nUUsletter*. Here are her words:

Religion was the original crowd control. Now it is the reason for crowd control.

As discussed in our Teen RE class, originally, religion was set up to teach people not to kill, to behave with others, etc. Now religion brings around crazies that use Jesus, Mohammed and other deities as reasons to attack, hurt, and kill others. Now governments have to use methods of crowd control to suppress the religious nuts that use their god(s) as reason(s) to hurt others.

Why?

**YOUTH CONFERENCE!**

An upcoming Youth Conference will be held at The Mountain on March 6-8. This is a Senior High Con for teens in the 9<sup>th</sup> thru the 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Youth Cons are weekend gatherings of youth from congregations all over the southeast for a weekend program filled with a variety of theme-based workshops, aimed at energizing people to work for positive change. The Mountain is a Unitarian Universalist retreat center located on the Eastern Continental Divide at 4200 feet in the Blue Ridge Mountains, near Highlands, North Carolina. Contact Bonny Sinclair for more information.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

by Maddie Kertay, President, Board of Trustees

*"Please return your tray tables to their upright and locked position; we are experiencing some unexpected turbulence."*

Anyone who has flown knows what comes next... In the event of emergency place the oxygen mask on yourself first and then assist others. This is solid advice in not only in an airborne emergency but also in an economic one. During the roughest of times as caring Unitarian Universalists (UUs) we know that there are others who have it even harder than we do and we have a desire to help. By tightening up our own economic houses we can assure that we will be able to help. In other words, we need to put on our own oxygen masks first so that we can then help others. In order to do this we must take a long hard look at our own financial issues and feelings about money (take a look at David Reed's column this month for some great information on this subject!). This introspection coupled with action is the key to success.

The word "budget" is about as popular as "root-canal" and yet the majority of fiscally fit people will tell you that it's the key to financial peace. There is not just one way to do a budget, a few of them can be found online at [www.cheapskatemonthly.com](http://www.cheapskatemonthly.com) or

[www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com). Perhaps you are one of those people who start out fine but can't figure out where it all went by the not-quite end of the month. Well then check out [www.finishrich.com](http://www.finishrich.com) to find out your "latte factor"—it might surprise you.

Want to learn how to trim your grocery budget and eat well at home? Try these sites: [www.hillbillyhousewife.com](http://www.hillbillyhousewife.com), [www.homeeconomiser.com](http://www.homeeconomiser.com), [www.angelfoodministries.com](http://www.angelfoodministries.com). Or how about the 100's of other ways money slips through your fingers? [www.thesimpledollar.com](http://www.thesimpledollar.com).

Maybe you have a few bucks but don't know how to make it grow: [www.fool.com](http://www.fool.com).

Are you interested in building an emergency fund for you and your family? [www.mdmproofing.com/iyem/emergency\\_fund.shtml](http://www.mdmproofing.com/iyem/emergency_fund.shtml).

Anne Frank is attributed with the quote "No one ever become poor by giving". I believe this is true since giving is at the center of our UU philosophy. To that extent I encourage you and your family to be in the best financial shape possible so that your generous UU spirit can shine through even in these dark and turbulent times.

SPECIAL MUSIC

**Aaron Long** is playing guitar for the December 7<sup>th</sup> service.

Aaron is an eighth grader at McCallie School, where he has been studying classical guitar for about one year under Charles Evans. Aaron wanted to be in the choir last year, but due to a scheduling conflict he had to choose another elective. Guitar was one of the options, and he is very glad he picked it. When he isn't studying or practicing his guitar, Aaron likes to read, play video games, and watch *The Simpsons*.

**Greg White Hunt** will be returning to provide music for the December 14<sup>th</sup> service.

Greg White Hunt, B.M., of Bamboo Gardens and Music located in Cohutta, Georgia, not only makes and plays bamboo instruments he harvests his own bamboo for them. This connection with bamboo as a living vehicle for the senses, ultimately transforming it into peaceful, meditative music, is true alchemy. Greg received his Bachelor of Music degree from UTK in the 1970s performing in orchestras, operas, and ensembles. Greg has released five original solo CDs as a multi-instrumentalist featuring his handcrafted bamboo instruments. Ethno-botanist, ethnomusicologist, and bamboo flute designer, Greg has presented his original music and handcrafted instruments at hundreds of fine arts shows in the Southeast.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

In this month of winter holidays, many of our fellow members here at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga also

celebrate their birthdays. See the list below and be sure to tell them, "Happy Birthday!"

Nicole Barnhart (Dec 2)  
Steve Hollingsworth (Dec 4)  
Michael Walters (Dec 4)  
Logan Vanderhoof (Dec 5)  
Connie Anderson (Dec 10)

Kate Briere (Dec 10)  
Susan Corn (Dec 10)  
Samantha Helmholtz (Dec 11)  
Fred Wright (Dec 12)  
Katie Couch (Dec 13)

Aaron Long (Dec 13)  
Bonny Sinclair (Dec 17)  
Kay Spehar (Dec 18)  
Keefer Dorris (Dec 21)  
Daniel Auda (Dec 24)

Don Dorris (Dec 25)  
Paige Joyner (Dec 27)  
Tom Clark (Dec 29)  
Donna Crompton (Dec 29)  
Charles Redwine (Dec 30)

## READY FOR SOME (POP) PSYCHOLOGY?

*by David Reed, Vice President, Ways and Means*

In last month's *nUUsletter*, I mentioned that we hope to make talking about money a bit easier. Historically, we've noted that talking about money doesn't seem to fit in a lot of folks in our church's comfort zone. Some of that may come from a desire to approach things from a perspective of reason. That often does not work with money. A lot of times money has a greater emotional impact than we might like to believe. At this time, if you have a 401K, 403B, IRA, Roth, or in my case what's left of a combination of a couple of these, you can probably relate to how much emotional impact money does have. A guy I work with now talks about his 201K.

Do you feel uncomfortable talking about money? If so, that may be an emotional reaction. The level of your reaction may be a function of where you fall emotionally into one of five money types. The kicker is that we may not even realize which type drives our behavior because it is often easier to intellectually rationalize how we feel about money rather than analyze how we feel.

So, see if one of these five money types may fit you:

**Mindless.** The money mindless avoids thinking about money. They don't know where their money goes, are overly generous, and may not save or pay bills on time - all because money is fear-based or painful for them to think about. They may have grown up with financially irresponsible parents or in homes that experienced trauma due to illness, addiction, or a death in the family.

**Entitled.** The entitled (or deserving) grew up believing that they deserve to be taken care of. As a result, they can be overly generous, spend too much, save too little, and may be careless about money management. Growing up, they often received "things" rather than love and attention, and as adults they

consume, hoping to fill the emptiness in their lives. They also feel shame for overspending.

**Balanced.** It seems that money is a non-issue for very few people. But balanced money types are the ones we might wish to emulate. They pay bills on time, save adequately, and are reasonably generous. Money is not a central focus of their lives. They grew up with positive role models who did not use money to manipulate them, and they lived in comfortable homes where bills were paid on time with parents and caregivers who both lived within their means and were able to save.

**Worried.** For worriers every decision begins with money. They wonder if they have enough money, if they can afford anything - and what will happen "if". They are cautiously generous, can be stingy, and save, save, save. Spending is not fun. Like the mindless, these people grew up with money trauma but it adapted differently. Worriers usually have experienced real or perceived deprivation, which explains why many people who lived through the Depression era fall into this group.

**Obsessed.** The obsessed are the ones who die with a million dollars under their mattress. Their worries are extreme, and because they are always preparing for the worst they seldom have fun. They pay in cash, live meagerly, and are not generous because they believe they have too little to share. Holding on to money rules their lives.

If you believe you fit neatly into one of these categories, you're probably rationalizing. People are usually more complex than that. But I'll bet you can relate to at least two of these types. The important thing is to understand the where's and why's behind what drives you. Peace of mind can come from understanding. This is good, because it sure doesn't come from the stock market. Ever.

## BOARD DELIGHTS

*by Maddie Kertay, President, Board of Trustees*

At their November meeting, the following "delights" were part of the board's discussions:

√ Plans were launched for a once a month "Thoughtful Cinema Series" That will serve as outreach for the church to the wider Chattanooga Valley and college campuses.

√ A busy holiday schedule of events including Christmas Eve cookie reception was confirmed.

√ Information on plans for the 2009 stewardship campaign was shared.

√ Plans for a holiday party in the Religious Education department were discussed.

√ Discussion continued on making sure event coordinators know the full extent of their responsibility when it comes to event planning and implementation.

## TREE OF LIGHTS



Each year we put up a Tree of Lights in the fellowship area. The tree has tags representing clients from Chattanooga Cares and women and children from the Domestic Violence Shelter. Chattanooga Cares asks that their clients be provided gift cards from various businesses making it easier for clients to buy something they need. The cards for the women and children in the shelter contain wish lists; they do not expect to get everything on their list. Anything you can do to help make this Christmas season a little happier for these individuals is always appreciated.

If you can buy something for one of these people, please take a card and write your name and phone number on the sheet located on the table next to that individual. Please bring wrapped gifts or gift cards back, with original tag attached, to the church by Dec. 12. If you have any questions, contact Leslie Brock. Also, if you don't have time to shop, Leslie is always happy to do your shopping for you.

New this year, you will find a wrapped box sitting next to the Tree of Lights with a slot on top. This box is for monetary donations to support needy families within our church. Please consider a donation to one or both of these worthy projects!

It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least  
the equivalent of what he takes out of it.

~Albert Einstein

## GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE

*by Sandy Kurtz*

### Alien Privet Under Control

It was a perfect day to move in on the invasive privet. Thanks to the effort of Jay, Kay, Sophie & Isabel McCurdy, Tamblin and Sky Papendorf, Tom and Wenona Kunesh, Charlie Redwine, Nancy Anderson, and Bill Kurtz, we planted some bulbs for spring, cut back the giant plant that was restricting sidewalk access, and pulled out a couple of truckloads of privet. A special thanks goes to Kay McCurdy who made it her mission to clear the entire trail to the lower parking lot making it a lot safer. Thanks also to George Helton who brought us pizza and Elaine Watkins who took on the kitchen cleanup tasks. NOTE: There is plenty of privet still lurking in the woods, but our continued attention to its elimination is making a difference. It's harder and harder to see any privet along driveway edges and our upper parking lot. Diligence pays off!

### Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In October, an update on the progress of the Chattanooga Green Committee was presented during the Forum. Mayor Littlefield has asked for recommendations that will enable Chattanooga to reduce its carbon footprint (carbon emissions) by 30%. That is what it will take to reach the goal of 7% below 1990 levels. Here are some committee findings:

- The majority of carbon emissions within the Chattanooga City limits can be attributed to electricity use and transportation.

- Regarding air quality, Chattanooga is NOT in attainment for PM2.5 under the EPA's annual standard, but IS for ozone.
- According to a STRATUM Analysis conducted in 2007, Chattanooga's street tree population removes 20,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere per year.
- Energy use in city buildings accounts for 75% of the city government's carbon footprint.
- By source, gasoline accounts for 30% of Chattanooga's greenhouse gas emissions not counting power lawn equipment, construction equipment, boats and other recreational equipment.
- Fifty percent of Chattanooga's electricity use is within the industrial sector, 28% in residential and 22% in commercial.
- In 2006, the transportation sector was responsible for 31% of greenhouse emissions in Chattanooga.

To learn more about the progress of the committee, go to [www.chattanooga.gov/ChattanoogaGreen\\_ChattanoogaGreen.htm](http://www.chattanooga.gov/ChattanoogaGreen_ChattanoogaGreen.htm). The draft report lacks a sense of urgency, yet the rate of climate change accelerates and CO<sub>2</sub> in the air continues to rise. Contact Mayor Littlefield or Brad McAllister at the Design Studio to provide your comments.

## ANGEL NUUS

The "Priveteers" have once again been sprucing up the church grounds and clearing out the invasive privet. Under the direction of **Sandy Kurtz**, the intrepid weeders included: **Jay McCurdy**, **Kay McCurdy**, **Sophie McCurdy**, **Isabel McCurdy**, **Bill Kurtz**, **George "Pizza Man" Helton**, **Linda Helton**, **tom kunesh**, **Sky Papendorp**, **Tamblyn Papendorp**, **wenona kunesh**, **Charles Redwine**, and **Nancy Anderson**. All earned angel wings & halos. **Charles** gets an upgrade to the 24K gold halo for intense physical labor on a day when he already had a packed schedule. And **Sandy** gets yet another magic wand for making this whole thing happen.

Golden Angel Wings go to **Lynna Ruth Standridge**, for her tireless dedication and commitment to the Unitarian Universalist

Church of Chattanooga. **Lynna Ruth** spent countless hours upgrading our accounting system and installing new financial software. Her hard work and expertise is very much appreciated!

**Ron Pasch** and **Paul Adler** added another set of angel wings to their growing collection. This time, they installed all the wiring necessary for our new projector, which will make its debut at our Christmas Eve service.

**Marge Pasch**, the Kitchen Kahuna, has been efficiently re-organizing our kitchen and persuaded **Ron Pasch** to help out with building new shelves for the pantry and even moving a light switch to make the kitchen run more smoothly.

## WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO BE AN ANGEL, TOO?

If I can be forgiven for paraphrasing a 1970s jingle, "He's an angel, she's angel, wouldn't you like to be an angel, too?" Every month, the newsletter recognizes a few of the people whose volunteer time and energy is essential to keeping our church running smoothly. Of course, there are always more opportunities to volunteer so you haven't missed your chance. Check out the list below for five volunteer needs. Maybe one of them will be a good fit for you. If not, look around and offer to help in another way or ask the board or minister what else needs to be done.

**Kitchen Kadre:** We all know the kitchen is the center of most homes and it certainly figures prominently in the life of our church as well. **Marge Pasch** has recently taken the lead in managing our church kitchen, but she needs help. If you can help with coffee hour, potlucks or other kitchen duties, please let **Marge** know.

**Project Secret Elf:** Project Secret Elf is looking for help with holiday church decorations and festivities. Among other activities, the secret elves will be decorating the church Christmas tree on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 9:30 am. Light breakfast refreshments will be provided for all the elves. If you would like to be a part of the Secret Elf team contact the big elf herself, **Maddie Kertay**

([maddie6@bellsouth.net](mailto:maddie6@bellsouth.net)), so you can get on one of her Secret Elf Teams!

**Christmas Eve Cookie Ministry:** Christmas Eve service will once again be blessed with the talents of our best bakers and candy makers for an after service Cookie Ministry. We hope you will be able to join us. If you have any questions or would like to be part of the baking team please contact **Maddie Kertay** ([maddie6@bellsouth.net](mailto:maddie6@bellsouth.net)).

**Love Children?** **Kay McCurdy** has selflessly worked in our nursery for the past two years and is beloved by the children and parents alike. As much as she enjoys her time in the nursery, she would like to attend a service every now and then. If you can help her out by volunteering in the nursery one Sunday, please let her know.

**Terrific Teaching Time:** The children's religious education department needs volunteers to help with the Sunday morning RE classes. You can choose your age level and can lead a class or assist, whichever you prefer. Contact **Jamie Sullivan** ([dre@uuc.org](mailto:dre@uuc.org)) for more information or to sign up.

## NEED A HANDYMAN?

**Steve Sherman**, of **McLaughlin Manufacturing** and a member of this church, is trying to support his employees during the downturn in the economy. His employees have gone to a four day work week and many are looking to supplement their income. Their skill include: fiberglass, yard work/gardening, automotive

and appliance repair, simple electrical work, simple painting, and house painting. If you need something done, call **Steve** at 423-400-7517 and he will see if he has someone with the skills to meet your need.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

UU-CRAFT COOPERATIVE

The UU Craft Cooperative will meet Mon., Dec 15 at 6:30. Bring your favorite craft and come join other crafters as they knit, paint, weave, and solder their way to happiness. Child care available by RSVP only and is \$2 per child. Contact Maddie Kertay <maddie6@bellsouth.net> or Diane Davison <ddavison8@comcast.net> for more details or to RSVP.

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WEDNESDAY NIGHT IN ~ DECEMBER 3

James Joyner is hosting a chili cook-off practice on Wed., Dec. 3 at 7 pm. Additional items to go along with the chili are also welcome. Please contact James if you can bring a pot of chili, or something to go along with it. A donation of \$5 for adults and \$3 for children is asked to defray the cost of food preparation from anyone not bringing food.

Monthly hosts are needed for Wednesday Night In. If you would like to host a Wednesday Night In, please contact Leslie Brock.

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SCENIC CITY CHORALE CHRISTMAS CONCERT!

Put Friday, December 5 at 7:30 PM on your calendars to hear the Scenic City Chorale sing holiday carols arranged by John Rudder. Also, appearing with the chorale will be the Atlanta Peach State Brass. Free admission at the Brainerd United Methodist Church.

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CHIONS

On December 13 from 10:30-noon, Dr. Nicky Ozbek will present *Contemplative Psychotherapy*.

Lessons from the East have affected psychotherapy in the Western hemisphere. Contemplative psychotherapy incorporates Buddhist awareness practice with cognitive behavioral therapy. Greater emphasis is placed on experiential knowing, what the present moment is calling us to do. Dr. Ozbek will share key concepts and lead us through some participatory exercises to give us a flavor for this form of psychotherapy.

Dr. Nicky Ozbek is a professor of psychology at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, as well as a psychotherapist in private practice. When asked what is special about her as a psychologist, she reports that she is still curious after all these years. She has studied internationally (ask her about India) as well as in the United States.

Welcome SINGERS!!  
Beginners/Intermediate/Advanced  
Sundays 9:15 - 10:30  
Come join the fun!!!

ADVENTURE COUPON BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE!

The books cost just \$30 and contain a wonderful variety of 2 for 1 coupons: fine restaurants (some of them are truly fine dining); casual restaurants (great places to take the kids); the Theatre Centre; the Symphony and Opera; the Zoo; Groome Transportation. You'll get back your \$30 back by using just one or two coupons. The rest is gravy.

Take a look at a sample book in the Fellowship Area. Try not to drool.

Sales of Adventures Dining & Entertainment Coupon books are a mini-benefit for the church and a mega-benefit for you. Contact Daidee Springer or the church office for more information.

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FOR SALE

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UUC) Endowment Committee seeks to sell four cemetery plots and a bronze marker located in the Christos Garden section of Chattanooga memorial Park ("the Duck Pond") in Red Bank. The retail value of this offer is over \$10,000 but the Endowment Committee will see the plots and markers for the following prices:

- \* All four plots plus the bronze marker for \$4,500.
- \* Two of the plots and the marker for \$2,300.
- \* Two of the plots (without the marker) for \$2,200

If you are interested, please contact any member of the UUC Endowment Committee: David Reed, Buck O'Rear, or George Helton.

**THE NUUSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

*the nUUsletter* welcomes articles from members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga. Please contact Wendy Sapp at <nUUsletter@uuc.org> or 706-694-0940 by December 15<sup>th</sup>.



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 Chattanooga TN  
 Permit No. 89

DATE	12/7	12/14	12/21	12/24	12/28
TOPIC	From Isolation to Freedom	Is Hope Really that Hard?	What Do You Want for Christmas?	Christmas Eve Service	Seeking the Bottom Line
LEADER	the Rev. David Carnish	the Rev. Jeff Briere	the Rev. Jeff Briere	the Rev. Jeff Briere	David Pope
BOT MEMBER	Maddie Kertay	David Reed	Elaine Watkins	Maddie Kertay	Maddie Kertay
GREETER	Betsey Hoyt	Ruby Bruns	Tamara Everette	James Joyner	Denita Rainingbird
USHER	Matt Hoyt	Kris Headrick	Clark Everett	Leslie Walters	Margaret Hudson
MUSIC	Aaron Long	Greg White Hunt	Kate Briere	Many Talents!	Marcia Jenison
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Rich Dwyer	Joshua Goldman	Buck O'Rear	Josh Goldman	Karl Hunt

*There is a wonderful mythical law of nature that the three things we crave most in life—happiness, freedom, and peace of mind—are always attained by giving them to someone else.*

-Peyton Conway March