



**LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT**

*by Eric Papendorp, President, Board of Trustees*

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF  
CHATTANOOGA  
*a liberal religious  
community*  
3224 NAVAJO DRIVE  
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37411  
423-624-2985  
FAX 423-624-0519  
[www.uuc.org](http://www.uuc.org)

As many of you know, for the past two years, we have shared our building with a Church of God congregation. I must admit that when they first came to us with an offer to rent our space every Saturday, I was skeptical of our ability to cohabitate which a religious group whose core beliefs were so different than ours. They are, of course, a Christian church. They subscribe to the following five foundational Christian doctrines:

1. *The inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible.*
2. *The virgin birth and complete deity of Christ.*
3. *The atoning sacrifice of Christ's death for the sins of the world.*
4. *The literal resurrection of the body.*
5. *Christ's second coming in bodily form to earth.*

*Board President  
Eric Papendorp*

Not exactly the beliefs of the typical Unitarian Universalist (UU). I felt I could look into my crystal ball and see exactly what was coming. I could see their grimaces as they perused our table of UU literature and the rolling of their eyes at our “Welcoming Congregation” sign. I could hear (yes, my crystal ball has sound) their sighs of exasperation at our inability to accept the infallibility of the bible and their prayers for all of our souls. This was definitely a disaster waiting to happen.

*Minister  
Rev. Jeff Briere*

*Religious Education  
Director  
Kay McCurdy*

I couldn't have been happier to be wrong. In fact, the truth of the matter is that our two congregations seemed to get along better than some of the groups we have within our own church. There was no criticism or evangelizing. There was no Church of God literature left laying around for one of our lost souls to find. The kitchen was cleaner than ever before, and their rent check helped to pay our bills. It was a match made in, ahem, heaven.

*Music Director  
Kate Briere*

*Church Administrator  
Chris Tregaskis*

Having the Church of God folks around has taught me a lot. Mostly, I no longer judge Christians by the ideologies espoused on their denominations' web pages. Rather, I tend to see them more as individuals and treat their beliefs with the same tolerance and acceptance that I treat the abundance of viewpoints within our own congregation.

*the nUUSletter Editor  
Wendy Sapp*

The Church of God has moved on this month to a new location. I wish them well and thank them for helping me become a better UU.

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[RETURN TO UUC](#)  
[HOMEPAGE](#)

**SUNDAY SERVICES ♦ 11:00 AM**

**FEBRUARY 7 ♦ ABOLISHING THE DEATH PENALTY**

Many Unitarian Universalists have called for abolishing the death penalty, but what in our faith tradition leads to such a decision? The Rev. Jeff Jones will speak from his heart about a position that affirms for him the very core of his religious faith.

**FEBRUARY 14 ♦ HEARTS COMMUNION**

The teens have planned and will lead this service which represents a water or flower communion, only with hearts. You will have an opportunity to bring a heart to attach to a tapestry, and at the end of the service, you will take with you a different heart to signify the love that someone brought to share with you. Don't miss the opportunity to see an inspiring service led by our amazing teens

**FEBRUARY 21 ♦ BEING GOOD WITHOUT GOD**

Some people would say that being good—living an ethical life—is impossible without morals inherited from God. Rabbi Greg Epstein, a chaplain at Harvard, disagrees. He says you can be good without God. The Rev. Jeff Briere leads this service and offers his thoughts about God-less morals.

**FEBRUARY 28 ♦ STEWARDSHIP & SABBATICALS**

In this service, the Rev. Jeff Briere speaks about the challenge we face in our stewardship campaign and what to expect during his sabbatical.

**SUNDAY FORUMS**

The Forum meets downstairs in the last room on the left at 9:30 am. All are welcome.

**February 7** ~ Matt Hoyt will speak on Richard Dawkins' new book, *The Greatest Show on Earth*.

**February 14** ~ Professor Irven Resnick will discuss his current research involving the Jewish rite of circumcision and its relationship to the Christian Eucharist.

**February 21** ~ Dr. George Helton will present "Francis Collins v. Carl Sagan's on Religion" on two high profile scientists with conflicting views on God, religion, and their relationship to cosmology.

**February 28** ~ Professor James Joyner will be leading the discussion. Watch the Friday UUpdate for the subject.

**WHO'S PREACHING?**



The Rev. Jeff Jones served the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fredericksburg (Virginia) for nine years, but is currently a full-time student at the University of Mary Washington immersing himself in a personal passion: Spanish language, culture, and history. He is grateful for the opportunity to speak about another passion: his opposition to the death penalty.

**THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB**

*by Steve Hollingsworth*

*The people who are in the mad rush today, increasing their wants senselessly suppose that they are enhancing their importance and real knowledge.*

*A day will come when they will exclaim, "What have we been doing?"*

*One after another many civilizations have risen, flourished, declined, and disappeared and in spite of their big boast of human progress, I am inclined to ask, to what end all this? What's the purpose?*

~ Mohandas K Gandhi

When *Time* magazine named Albert Einstein as the Person of the Century, I considered a few alternatives but was mostly pleased with the choice. Touring India during January and remembering a visit to the Sevagram Ashram where Gandhi spent much time in the 1930s and 40s, I'm rethinking my conclusion.

A lifetime ago, Mahatma (literally, *great soul*) Gandhi was asking the right questions and leading by example. Somehow all assembled humanity needs to survive the transition from measuring output of goods and services to measuring health, satisfaction, and opportunity. Looking to Gandhi's ideas seems to me to be the best answer where the alternative as I see it is institutionalized inequity driven by irresponsible production.

Gandhi's vision is simultaneously simple and monumental. He used his superb British education to muster arguments with clear moral authority. Living simply he mobilized a nation to amplify his unquenchable demand for fairness. In the end, the makers of empire realized that collectively they could not accept their brown subjects as equals and that in a new world order affirming of self-determination, the civilized thing to do was to withdraw.

Today's India embraces unlimited wealth and laissez-faire capitalism and starves public services. It remembers Gandhi for being the father of its independence. His heart would break. Despite his stature as a leader he did what he could for himself—including making his own cloth and thread—even as he devoted his life to the service of others. It wasn't about independence, it was about liberation. Let there be no untouchables, give lepers a place at the table, put aside sectarian strife.

Does radical belief in everyone's worth and devotion to how we are all in this together sound familiar? As much as we Unitarian Universalists might like to claim him, I think Gandhi represents something bigger than we are.

**PAGAN NUUS**

**February**

2 - Candlemas - Christian

2 - Groundhog Day - Pennsylvania Dutch

2 - Imbolc - Celtic

7 - Study Group 9:30 am - Covenant discussion continued

14 - New Moon

28 - 9:49 am - Full Moon

If Candlemas be fair and bright

Winter has another flight

If Candlemas brings clouds and rain

Winter will not come again

Candlemas is the Christian commemoration of the purification of the Virgin Mary and the presentation of Jesus in the Temple at Jerusalem. Imbolc is the Celtic celebration of the birth of the first lambs. Groundhog Day is based on an Old English folk tradition carried on by Pennsylvanian Dutch settlers. The verse above speaks of the correlation between the weather at Candlemas and the coming, or not, of spring.



**GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE  
WHAT ACTIONS BRING A MORE JUST WORLD?**

*by Sandy Kurtz, Green Sanctuary*

On January 12, as our new year began, the Earth shook us up with a 7.1 magnitude earthquake in Haiti. It was especially devastating to the capital Port-Au-Prince. There were estimates of 100,000 deaths plus countless injuries and 1/3 homeless in a city of 3 million. In this tiny country, considered the poorest in the Americas, this earthquake insult seems especially unjust.

One has to ask why this should happen to people already down on their luck. Is God mad at them? Did the Haitians get together and swear a 'pact to the Devil' as Pat Robertson maintains? Or should we not help because the American people have already donated through our U.S. income tax as Rush Limbaugh asserts?

In fact, the earthquake was so obviously devastating that people of good will around the world immediately moved to help ease pain and suffering even if only to donate money. Every faith-based group stepped up to the plate. Our own Unitarian Universalist Service Committee quickly sent donations and trained survivors in Port-Au-Prince in disaster procedures. Our local Episcopalian diocese had an office staff just outside of the city that helped and the St. Augustine Catholic Church on Signal Mountain sprang to action. For years they have supported a school (800 K-12 students) in Haiti through American Haitian Foundation. The church raises money primarily through the Longest Yard Sale on Hwy. 127. Solar panels were installed on the school roof by Thomas Tripp, owner of Big Frog Mountain here.

It is expected that the frequency and intensity of natural disasters will increase due to climate change. This earthquake was made worse due to overpopulation that drove overuse of natural resources which led to lack of food, deforestation, and erosion from flooding. There are 10 million people in this country smaller than the size of Maryland. More than half of deaths are from water-borne diseases. In comes Plant With Purpose, a faith-based, non-profit organization that works to eradicate poverty by reforestation, soil conservation, and community savings and loan projects. They helped 2000 Haitian families reestablish farms after the 2008 hurricanes. The group now works in 84 communities for long-term recovery. Resource restoration may be the real answer to ameliorating unjust disasters.

**MORE ON HAITI RELIEF EFFORTS**

Tim McKee recently made his first donation to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) to support them in their efforts in Haiti. He thought you might be interested in how the UUSC is helping.

UUSC's disaster response in Haiti will focus on those survivors less likely to have access to aid, such as child domestic workers (restaviks), women-headed households that work in the informal sector, and people living with HIV/AIDS. Haiti has a vibrant grassroots movement with a vision of empowering people. UUSC will work closely with partners in this grassroots movement to reach those survivors at greatest risk of being overlooked. As of this afternoon, we've already connected with three organizations and will be reaching out to others over the next 24 hours in order to shape our response. They will be updating their website regularly as plans develop ([www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)).

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 (UUCC).

**INFORMATION, PLEASE**

*by Kay McCurdy, Director of Religious Education*

You know those irritating “can’t see the forest for the trees” sort of folks? That’d be me. I can get lost in the details and never come up for air. So, this month’s article will be focused on the big picture.....our Religious Education Cooperative. Just *what* is it we do downstairs?

First off, let’s set the stage. There are four classrooms: Chalice Children (Preschool and Kindergarten); Sprouts (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>) Medievals (4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>) Teens (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>). After “The Story for All Ages” portion of morning service, the kids head downstairs to begin religious education. Each classroom is staffed by a lead teacher and an assistant, no matter if there are 2 or 12 kids in attendance. The only exception is the Chalice Children, which has one teacher and two assistants (our beloved nursery staff, Carmen and Ingrid). Each group has its own curriculum, as well as opening and closing rituals. Fortunately, the kids are experts at the routine, and kindly remind new volunteers who, what, when, where, and how. There is real joy in observing their sense of ownership and pride.

On a typical Sunday (though, as we all know, there is no such thing), here is what you might see, should you pop your head in each door: The Chalice Children are learning about our church family, putting names with faces, and considering how we all work together to make a whole. The Sprouts are hearing a story about Borneo, and the Legend of the Parachuting Cats. This week they’re focusing on the importance of keeping the earth in balance. In the Medievals classroom, the kids are doing self portraits, both inner and outer, and reflecting on the question of identity. The Teens are down the hall, hard at work planning their upcoming service with Bonny and James. From the music to the theme, they’ll develop each component, and then blow our minds with their awesomeness on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Just in case you skipped to the bottom to get the short version, here it is:

We meditate. We ask big questions. We sing. We light our chalices and gather together. We laugh. We investigate. We practice: kindness, compassion, understanding. We avoid: judgments, dismissals, accusations. We remember who likes tangerines and who is allergic to peanuts. We sing Happy Birthday. We dance with abandon. We open ourselves to the possibility of a better, brighter world, and we bear witness to it each week.

**MOUNTAIN CON**

February 19-21, 2010, the Religious Education Cooperative is sending TWELVE kids to The Mountain for a Youth Conference. Many thanks for your congregational support and generous donations, which are making this trip possible!

**ANGEL NUUS**

Have you noticed the wonderful changing art exhibits that grace the walls of the sanctuary? Our art angel, **Carol Hobbs**, delights us by gathering works of local artists to inspire us. Thank you, Carol!

**Kay McCurdy**, our resident religious education (RE) angel, supports a wonderful mix of inter-generational teaching in all of the RE classes. What an enriching gift for children, teachers, and the entire church. Thank you, Kay!

## HEART COMMUNION SERVICE COMING FEBRUARY 14!

Love is the feeling you feel when you feel a feeling you have never felt before. Please make plans to attend the second annual teen service, *Share the Love*, on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

This year, the teens chose a heart communion for their service. We invite you to come and offer your contribution—your heart. This service resembles the water communion in which we bring water to share. You will have an opportunity to bring a heart to attach to a tapestry, and at the end of the service, you will take with you a different heart to signify the love that someone brought to share with you.

The heart you bring may be a simple one cut from paper or a more elaborate one with decorations or may be made from some other material. Write a word of sentiment (such as love, peace, courage, fulfillment, hope) or a word of special meaning to you. On the day of the service, there will be a variety of hearts available for visitors and absent-minded folks.

Please join us on February 14<sup>th</sup>, bring your heart, and *Share the Love*.

### MORE ON STEWARDSHIP

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

For the past several months, we have been discussing the upcoming Stewardship Campaign in *the nUUsletter*. Since we have a lot of new members, we thought it would be a good idea to explain how the Stewardship campaign works.

Most of our church revenue comes from the generous contributions of our members and contributing friends. We obtain those contributions at the time a member joins the church and in an annual solicitation. The Board of Trustees prepares a preliminary budget, and we will conduct a pledge campaign in early March to raise the money to support that budget.

Between now and Stewardship Sunday, we will provide more specific details about how the money will be spent. You will be receiving letters from Board President, Eric Papendorp, and the Rev. Jeff Briere about the Stewardship campaign, whose theme this year is *Building Our Church Family*. We will discuss it a little more at our Fellowship Reception on February 26<sup>th</sup>, though that evening is primarily to have fun. We will begin the pledge campaign on Stewardship Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

We use a person-to-person canvass of our entire membership to solicit pledges. A large number of our members have agreed to serve as stewards. They will be contacting you to arrange a meeting to discuss your pledge.

We want to emphasize that your pledge is not the only thing that should be discussed. We also use this as an opportunity to take the pulse of the congregation. We really want to know how you feel things are going at the church. And, finally, the pledge meeting offers a chance for fellowship between our members. I have been involved with these campaigns for over ten years. I try to meet with someone I don't know well, and I've found the meetings to be very satisfying. If it is at all possible, we would like to try to hold as many of these pledge meetings as possible on Stewardship Sunday. We would also like to obtain a signed pledge card at that time.

We want to express our sincere thanks for your generous support of the church.

Next month, we'll talk a bit more about what we plan to do with the money.

**WHERE'S JEFF?**  
*by the Rev. Jeff Briere*

February 28<sup>th</sup> will be my last day in the pulpit until late August. I will be on sabbatical for a few months, and then vacation for a month. I will return to congregational life in July, but not to the worship service until August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

I have truly enjoyed ministry during the last six years at the Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church of Chattanooga, but I need a rest. I intend to focus on other activities for a few months in order to recharge for the future. I also want to read and think deeply about worship in our church.

Among ministers, sabbaticals are often used to check out other opportunities and see what's available in other churches. I assure you that is not true for me. I like it here. I have moved around too much in my life, and I enjoy being rooted here in Chattanooga. As long as you'll have me, I wish to be your minister until I retire in about nine years.

If you encounter a situation in which you would like to talk to someone in a counseling setting, please contact Chris in the office, who can refer you to several people with expertise in pastoral counseling. In extreme situations or emergencies, I can return from sabbatical.

During my absence, we have arranged for several ministers to visit our pulpit. You can read more about them in future issues of the newsletter. They will look at life with a perspective different from mine. They will bring their own spiritual baggage, but I think it's a good idea to listen to someone else for awhile. I have been talking long enough. I urge you to greet them with the same grace that you showed me.

The Rev. Don Kaller is a retired Presbyterian minister who has extensive missionary experience. I met him at the Rachel Carson Dinner, so I know he has an interest in environmental affairs. He will preach three Sundays in March and April.

Jonathan Sloan is a member of Pilgrim Congregational Church and he will preach once in March. He is a seminary graduate who is preparing for ministry in the United Church of Christ.

The Rev. Jake Morrill is the minister at the Oak Ridge UU Church. He will preach once in March. He thought he would talk about his recent sabbatical and why it was good for both him and his church. He will also bring his choir with him. It ought to be a great service.

The Rev. Jim Philpott is a United Methodist minister associated with Christ Church on East Brainerd Road. Most of his time is spent in pastoral counseling. He will visit our church ten times this spring and summer. He knows Chris very well so ask her about him.

Duncan Teague is a UU seminary student in Atlanta. He will preach once in August.

Several members of our congregation will also fill the pulpit this summer among them Mike North, Jesse Blue, John Standridge and Steve Hollingsworth.

For some of the time, Kate and I will be in town. We plan to visit our granddaughter in Florida, travel in the Maritime Provinces of Canada and participate in an international program in Detroit. I don't intend to publish a detailed journal, but I may occasionally post photos or thoughts on the web site.

You are free to send me e-mail messages, but I cannot promise I will be reading e-mail often.

Something that will occupy my thoughts during my sabbatical is what social justice project we can accomplish as a congregation. I hope you think about this as well.

Stay well and sleep warm.

**WHAT THEY SAID**  
**SMALL GROUP MINISTRY NEWS**

*by Dez Papendorp, Small Group Ministry Coordinator*

Last month, a someone asked, “What are the other Small Group Ministry Groups doing?” I asked our facilitators to answer this question in five sentences. Here is what they said.

#1 SGM group: The *Kikimas*’ co-facilitator Mary Hunter says: “Kikimas are seven strong women learning to listen and work together. We will cook together at Ronald McDonald House and will lead a service at church together on Challenges. Our meetings and activities make us an outstanding group.” Co-facilitator Elaine Hill describes the group similarly adding: “This group of eight women share facilitating by choosing one or two sessions to lead.”

#2 SGM group: *Natural Diversity* is described by Wendy Sapp, who co-facilitates with Buck O’Rear: “As you might guess from our name, we find great strength in the diversity in our group, which consists of members from their 20s to their 70s, men and women, and more life and work experiences than I could begin to list. By consensus, we decided to use the *Heart to Heart* book for our sessions and have selected topics that interest all of us. In addition to learning from each other as we share our personal stories, we are giving back to the church and community by painting a RE room and working at the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.”

#3 SGM group: *A gUUy Thing* is co-facilitated by Bob Barnhart who says. “Our group has become cohesive, we have definitely found our common ground. We are definitely headed in the right direction toward service and community. We are bonding more each meeting.” Co-facilitator Rich Dwyer further describes the group as “a place where you can speak and be heard, a place where you don’t have to speak to be acknowledge, a place where you are a welcome member, and part of a caring group.”

#4 SGM group: *ThOM* facilitator, Kristie McKinley, describes the group by saying, “THOM (THursdays Once a Month) is a group of people who are very committed to sharing with one another about our session topics. It is **our** group and I am very pleased that they feel this is the way it should be. We contribute to one another in our listening fully. I have learned a great deal about myself in not only in listening that has awakened a thought in me, but also in sharing something and getting my “aha” moment.”

#5 SGM group: *VenUUe Q* is described by facilitator Steve Hollingsworth: “*VenUUe Q* is eight people who have met on a journey together, all with remarkable stories to tell. Not fully believing that ministry to themselves is something that can happen together in a small group--or maybe specifically this group--grace has come without asking and despite any expectations to the contrary. While the group was created as intentionally queer-affirming, every sharing moment has reinforced that being queer is less about sex than being human is. There is room at the table.”

#6 SGM group: Nicole Barnhart, facilitator, describes this Thursday night group: “It has been a joy meeting new people. SGM allows me to really get to know the people in my group in a setting that is more personal and intimate. Each one of us brings our own uniqueness to the group. I really look forward to continuing the journey of learning more about the individuals in my group as well as expanding the knowledge of myself.”

If any of these words intrigue you, I encourage you to directly seek these people out for further conversation. It’s a difficult task to describe each group with five sentences or less. There’s more to know about each—just ask.

And stay tuned next month to find out what our Rev. Jeff Briere and SGM Coordinator, Dez Papendorp think about Small Group Ministry.

**ART ON THE WALLS**

*by Carol Hobbs*

During January and February, photographer Bob Edens will exhibit recent photographs of Chattanooga landmarks and vistas. Bob is self-taught, confessing to studying and reading everything he could about photography for the last 21 years.

Bob started shooting primarily landscapes, and branched out into bird and raptor photography, and portraiture with a novel twist. Bob's photos have been published in several local and regional magazines. He currently has images on display at Eastgate Towncenter and Reflections Gallery. Bob holds membership in the National Association of Photoshop Professionals, Professional Photographers of America, AVA, and the Photographic Society of Chattanooga.

In addition to Bob's art, our own J. "Ollie" Grigsby wants to share his daughter's art with us. The large poster frame on the back wall contains small prints of paintings done by Wendy Grigsby Brown of Weaverville, N.C.

**DO YOU REMEMBER GEORGE?**

*by Carolyn Moore*

Those of you who are long-time members will remember one of our interim ministers, George Brooks, who served the church from 1986-87. He and his wife Priscilla, recently retired to an Assisted Living Community called "Wheelock Terrace" in New Hampshire. Their new address is George G. and Priscilla A. Brooks, 32 Buck Road, Hanover, NH 03755. Their phone number remains (603) 632-03755.

**DOUBLE THE PLATE UUPDATE**

*by Karl Hunt*

So far this fiscal year we've had three Double the Plate Sundays and have met our donors' challenges every time. You, the congregation, have performed wonderfully in supporting this program. You and our donors have provided approximately \$1,500 in additional money for our church at a time when we are operating on a lean budget. Thank you! We'll have three more Double the Plate Sundays before the end of the fiscal year, in March, May, and June. Please be prepared to continue your great support!

My recipe for life is not being afraid of myself, afraid of what I think or of my opinions.  
~ Earth Kitt

**IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD**

We will soon have a trial run with a Williams Sound Technology FM transmitter and 4 receivers through an equipment loan from the Unitarian Universalist Association. We only get to borrow this trial kit for a week due to high demand from other churches. We hope that it will be available on February 7 for anyone interested in trying it, but we may not receive it until later in the month. The Williams Sound Technology FM is an assistive listening system for those who have hearing difficulties. It is an FM type system, which requires the listener to either wear a headset or have a hearing aid with a T coil. If you want to read more about the types of assistive listening devices and their disadvantages and advantages, go to [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org/Accessibility%20Handbook.doc](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org/Accessibility%20Handbook.doc).

If you experience difficulties hearing in our church, please take a moment to complete the brief survey on the next page and return it to Chris in the office.

### HEARING SURVEY

We know several of our members may use whatever system we choose, and we hope to make a choice that allows everyone to hear our service.

If you have difficulty hearing, please take a few moments and complete the survey below and return to **Chris** in the church office.

Please ask questions or share additional thoughts with **Marge Pasch** and/or **Nicky Ozbek**.

Here are the questions we would like to have answered to help us as we move forward.

1. How often do you have problems hearing in our building?

frequently  seldom

2. If you ever have problems, please specify where and when you cannot hear as well as you would like.

3. How often do you avoid educational programs, religious activities, or other involvement in the church community because you may not be able to hear?

never  seldom  frequently

4. Do you wear hearing aids?

yes  no

5. If you wear hearing aids, do you have a T-switch?

yes  no

6. Have you ever used an assistive listening device other than a hearing aid to help you hear?

yes  no

7. If one were available to you, would you use a hand-held device to help you hear in our building?

yes  no

8. If a pair were available to you, would you use headphones to help you hear in service?

yes  no

9. Please share any other suggestions or ideas that would help the committee make decisions about selecting an assistive listening system for our church.

**RECENT HAPPENINGS!**



In December, our church was blessed by a performance of the Chattanooga Harp Ensemble. While pictures can't begin to capture the beauty of their music, here are two photos of the event.



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!**

Kristie McKinley ~ February 6  
Karl Hunt ~ February 8  
Will Barnhart ~ February 11  
David Reed ~ February 11  
Clark Everett ~ February 12  
Walt Jenison ~ February 12  
Nancy Beel ~ February 17



Lee Solomon ~ February 18  
Maurine Olin ~ February 19  
Lily Joyner ~ February 23  
Tim Trussell-Smith ~ February 23  
Nancy Wright ~ February 23  
Tim Kleve ~ February 26  
Emerson Couch ~ February 28

### **DON'T MISS THE WINTER COFFEEHOUSE ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12**

Love will be in the air, along with music, poetry and who knows what else, when the Coffeehouse returns on Friday February 12<sup>th</sup>. Doors will open at 6:30 pm and the performances will begin at 7. In honor of Valentine's Day, we'd like the evening's performances to revolve around the theme of love. Performers of all ages are invited to share their talents in a supportive and relaxed environment. As always, appreciative audience members are very welcome.

In order to better manage the order of performances, performers will be asked to sign in that evening and indicate the length of their performances. Younger performers will be scheduled earlier in the evening. Desserts, snacks, coffee and other beverages will be provided.

To paraphrase Forrest Gump's momma, a coffeehouse is like a box of chocolates—you never know what you're gonna get. However, we can guarantee that you'll laugh, you'll cry, and you'll marvel at the talents of your fellow Unitarian Universalists. If you have a question or want to help by bringing food or a beverage to share, please contact Catherine Long at 423-886-6098.

### **CALLING ALL CHILI COOKS!**

Is your chili the best? Well, put it to the test. Prepare your batch for the Chili Cook-off Fundraiser to be held after church on February 7<sup>th</sup>. We will limit contestants to 12 due to our obvious space limitations - NO EXCEPTIONS, so hurry and sign up! For more details, or to sign up, contact Wendes Jones.

### **POETRY CORNER**

Some years ago, my husband and I fostered a beautiful baby girl named Milan. She was just two weeks old when she came to live with us. We quickly grew to love her dearly and hoped to adopt her. Eighteen months later, she was finally reunited with her birth mom.

#### **Faraway Train**

Two days before I lost you for good  
I became too dizzy to stand.

I laid you down in your crib for the night  
having rocked you too long  
till your cheeks became flushed - your  
curls damp against your forehead.  
Closing the door softly behind me

I stood clutching the doorjamb  
as the world swirled around me -

Grief coming like a far away train  
thundering toward me  
and I, strapped to the tracks,

wondered if your birth mom understood  
the pain she had caused  
and also the joy.

~ Nancy Beel

January 2010

S M T W T F S  
 1 2  
 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
 10 11 12 13 14 15 16  
 17 18 19 20 21 22 23  
 24 25 26 27 28 29 30  
 31

# February 2010

March 2010

S M T W T F S  
 1 2 3 4 5 6  
 7 8 9 10 11 12 13  
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20  
 21 22 23 24 25 26 27  
 28 29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:00a SGM	2 1:00p SGM	3 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p Wed. Night In	4 6:30p SGM (3 groups)	5 10:00a Music (Rhrrsal) 10:00a Homeschool	6
7 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Forum 9:30a Pagan Group 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE 12:00p Chili Cookoff	8	9 6:30p SGM	10 10:30a Stewardship Training 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p SGM	11 7:00p Stewardship Training	12 10:00a Music (Rhrrsal) 6:30p CoffeeHouse	13 10:30a CHIONS 12:00p Homeschool 6:45p Bridge Group
14 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Forum 11:00a Worship Service(Teens) 11:00a RE 12:30p Stewardship	15	16 1:00p SGM	17 5:30p Piano Lessons 7:00p Board Meeting  <b>6:30p SGM</b>	18	19 10:00a Music (Rhrrsal)	20
21 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Forum 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE	22	23	24 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p SGM	25	26 10:00a Music (Rhrrsal) 6:30p Fellowship Dinner	27
28 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Forum 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE						

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
 3224 NAVAJO DRIVE  
 CHATTANOOGA, TN 37411-5036  
 423-624-2985 ✕ FAX 423-624-0519  
[www.uuc.org](http://www.uuc.org) ✕ [office@uuc.org](mailto:office@uuc.org)

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DATE	2/7	2/14	2/21	2/28
TOPIC	Abolishing the Death Penalty	Heart Communion	Being Good without God	Stewardship & Sabbaticals
LEADER	Rev. Jeff Jones	UU Teens	Rev. Jeff Briere	Rev. Jeff Briere
BOT MEMBER	Bonnie Sinclair	Kristie McKinley	Diane Davison	Maddie Kertay
GREETERS & USHER	Kristie McKinley Charles Redwine Richard Ralston	Ruby Bruns Donna Crompton Margaret Hudson	Sandy Branden Elaine Hill Claire Ballew	Carolyn Moore Elaine Watkins Pat Mann
MUSIC	Nancy Anderson	Jesse Blue & the House Band Jeff Briere Steve Hollingsworth	Steve Hollingsworth	Kate Briere
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Karl Hunt	Roger Davis	Catherine Long	Eric Davis

*There is more hunger in the world for love and appreciation than for bread.*

~ Mother Teresa