



THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB

by Steve Hollingsworth

Suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem.

~ Phil Donahue

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Remembering some Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UUC) history and having had some remarkable frank, impromptu conversations within my small group ministry (SGM), I impute there is much unresolved in our hearts from times someone we know has committed suicide or made an attempt.

Many UUC members may still remember Peggy Cottam, a quiet sixty-ish single woman with striking white hair. Although she tended to keep to herself, she spent time downstairs at our church trying to bring some organization to our library. If we had been the community then that we are today, I think we might have done more to address the damage done to all of us when she took her own life.

If we grow to be the community I believe we can be, we might have seen warning signs and found a way to keep her alive. I infer a subtle form of ageism is involved here: Since more older people die of disease, who notices how high the suicide rates are among single people 60+?

Out of my SGM (we call ourselves VenUUe Q) has come a fortunate alignment of motivation and resource to address unfinished business in our church life, to move us toward the beloved community we wish to be, and to give back to our friends and neighbors in the Chattanooga area. Imagine an event to help raise everyone's awareness of risk factors for suicide within various groups and to become familiar with what is effective at reducing suicide rates. VenUUe Q attracted a young man, Douglas Michael Harper, with experience producing an event of the sort I imagine. Doug's personal story is tragic, but we can turn the circumstances that brought him here into a serendipitous blessing.

September 10th is World Suicide Prevention Day and space in the church is available. Another event scheduled for that date was canceled—another lucky stroke that argues for going ahead.

It will take time and effort, expertise, and money. I've begun personal appeals to get the right people involved. I offer this information to everyone so that, if you don't hear from me but are ready to contribute, please speak up! There are lives depending on you.

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

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SUNDAY SERVICES ♦ 11:00 AM

MAY 2 ♦ *THE PALETTE THAT COLORS LIFE*

The most dangerous position anyone can take in the spiritual or political realm is to declare three realities: God, Us, and Them. It means that we declare a power above, our allegiance with that power, and the separation of the third from the first and second. With this single, simplistic perspective, "There is a God, we are on God's side, and together in God's name, we will try to help you (misguided and pitiful as you are)," much harm has been done. How life changes when we acknowledge that we are all in it together, admitting we are more alike than different.

Rev. Jim Philpott preaching. Music by Ann Pope.

MAY 9 ♦ *IT'S MOTHER'S DAY SOMEWHERE*

As many of you know, Mother's Day was first proposed by Unitarian, Julia Ward Howe, as a call for peace and disarmament. Have you ever seen a Hallmark card call for such a day? So if there is more to this day than idealization, what is it?

Paul "Bear" Bryant, the famous Alabama football coach, did a commercial for Bell South Telephone years ago. He said, in a wistful way, "I wish I could call my Momma today." We all long for what we might have had, for what could have been. So what would we say today? What should we say?

Rev. Jim Philpott preaching. Special music by the adult choir and children's bell choir.

MAY 16 ♦ *THE TIPPING POINT*

I'll bet you have noticed this. Throughout life there are moments when it all takes a turn. And, the way things *were* is suddenly absent and the way things are *going to be* is freshly present. Life has reached a turn in the road and there is no going back.

It is, after all, the final straw that breaks the camel's back! The scales of life finally do tip one way or the other with the slightest of nudges, and all is changed. Whether it is chaos, randomness, or purpose, it happens. And perhaps our job is to be open to it—to welcome the evolution of life rather than resist it.

Rev. Jim Philpott preaching. Music by McCallie Guitar Quartet and Children's Bell Choir.

MAY 23 ♦ *IT WILL SOON BE DECORATION DAY*

(You country folks will know what I'm talking about.) All of life is a remembering. We honor the past by remembering and making sense of what has gone before. Today we will take a look at loss and grief. Each of us, in our own way, must come to terms with the endless cycle of birth and death, attachment and separation. With glad and grateful hearts we remember in order to enjoy the present and step into the future. We must live with the pain of disappointment and the hope of our dreams.

Rev. Jim Philpott preaching. Music by Greg White Hunt.

MAY 30 ♦ *BEYOND 2012*

Mike North will discuss some of the points raised in John L. Peterson's book, *A Vision For 2012*. Peterson is among of the world's most informed futurists, and his book raises many questions about the state of our world as we approach a date many believe to be of great significance. What do potential breakdowns and breakthroughs mean to society, governance, and most of all, to our humanity?

SUNDAY FORUMS

The Forum meets downstairs in the last room on the left at 9:30 am. Contact Wendes Jones and Ken Beaver for more information about May forums. All are welcome to attend.

May 2 ~ An End to Ageing – A Real Possibility in Our Time

“Mix the latest and most rigorous scientific research, irrepressible old-fashioned entrepreneurship, and the ancient human desire to live forever and the result is today’s exploding multibillion-dollar anti-aging industry.” ~ Greg Critser

May 9 ~ Unitarian Universalist Architecture – Reinforcing Our Values and Beliefs

Our physical surroundings affect how we think and feel. The architecture of Unitarian Universalist churches is a reflection of who we are and how we interact with the world.

May 16 ~ Localism – How Our Choices Impact Our Community

Communities are all about connections, a shared sense of commitment, and responsibility to each other. Our choices of what we buy and how we configure the physical infrastructure of our neighborhoods affect the future of our communities.

May 23 ~ Natural Capitalism – Reviving Our Economy and Saving Our Environment

Ever since the 60s, environmentalists have been fighting with capitalists over the trade-offs between environment and economy. Natural Capitalism is a way to protect both, if liberals and conservatives will ever choose to work together again.

May 30 ~ Patriotism – A Different Paradigm for a Global Society

With the evolution of communication and transportation technology, geographic boundaries are becoming less relevant, the meanings and purpose of patriotism and nationalism are evolving as well.

WHO’S PREACHING

Rev. Jim Philpott, Th.D., a minister in the United Methodist Church, has conducted a community-based pastoral counseling practice in Chattanooga for the past 28 years. He is licensed as a Marital and Family Therapist and a Clinical Pastoral Therapist and is a Fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. Jim served on the Board of Education of the Chattanooga Public Schools from 1989-1993 and as Director of Pastoral Care at Valley Behavioral Health Hospital in the 1990s. He currently serves as Pastoral Counselor for Christ UMC and the Chattanooga District of the United Methodist Church. On work days he provides counseling services to individuals and couples in his Georgia Avenue office and on off days he can be found in his shop turning wood art on a lathe or in a trout stream testing the waters. He is husband to Jeane, father to Ben and Sarah, and “granddaddy” to two granddaughters.



Mike North is a professional land surveyor and former opinion columnist for News Publishing Company. He spent more than 20 years as a lay-minister and deacon in the Church of Christ, and has recently decided that truth isn’t found buried beneath mounds of doctrine and dogma.

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 (UUCCh).

GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE
by Sandy Kurtz, Green Sanctuary

Justice in Coal Country

In conjunction with the Portraits of Appalachia showing for May's Art on the Walls, you are invited to see *Coal Country* on May 23rd at 2 pm at the Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church of Chattanooga. The DVD provides a dramatic look at modern coal mining. Get to know working miners along with activists who are battling coal companies in Appalachia. Hear from miners and coal company officials



concerned about jobs and the economy. Families have lived in the region for generations, and most have ancestors who worked in the mines. All share a deep love for the land, but Mountain Top Removal mining is tearing them apart. When 29 miners have been lost to deep mining as well as deaths from mountain top removal, we need to understand the meaning behind promises of "cheap energy" and "clean coal." Are they achievable? At what cost? Are there alternatives for our energy future? A discussion will follow the showing.

TVA Coal Ash Spill at Harriman, TN

Rachel Carson Memorial Event Planned

Mark your calendar now for Saturday night June 5th when we go to Crabtree Farms for our annual honoring of Rachel Carson, a UU considered the mother of the modern environmental movement with her book, *Silent Spring*. Ethical eating is the topic this year for UU Ministry for Earth so it is appropriate for us to visit this organic farm for a tasteful evening. This event will be open to all people of faith as we experience a sense of wonder in this beautiful setting.

Privet Advance Slowed

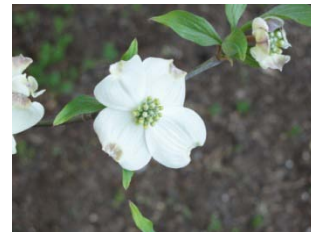
Once again we held our ground in fine style against the privet invasion! Further the front beds were cleaned out, some new plants added and other areas were beautified too. In the fall you will see the results of seeds planted by the youth at the edge of the Spehar parking lot. Thanks to Nancy Anderson; Adam, Katie, Emerson and Clay Couch; Heidi Davis; Roger Davis; Hugh Everhart; Mac Forney; George Helton; Chandler Hunt; Lily Joyner; Greg and Sam Kertay; Bill and Sandy Kurtz; Alex Lewis; Kay, Sophie and Isabel McCurdy; Charlie Redwine; Eric Slayton; Jeremy Long; and Logan, Caroline and Isabella Vanderhoof. Thanks especially to Donna Crompton who experienced her first time as our pizza runner and supported the troops in the kitchen.

A service celebrating the life of Nancy Lane Wright will be held at the church on May 15 at 2 pm.

No flowers. Donations to CISV and/or Chattanooga Theatre Centre.

SPRING AT THE UCC

Over the years, many people in our church from 3 year olds to senior citizens have volunteered their time, talents, and resources to beautify our church yard. This spring, the result of all that effort was more evident than ever. I hope you enjoyed the beautiful nature display. If you missed it, here is a small sample of what was blooming.



PAGAN NUUS

May

1 - Beltane/May Day
2 - 9:30 am Study Group - Topic: Beltane,
further discussion on fund raising for curriculum
14 - 1:04 am New moon
27 - 11:07 pm Full Moon



Beltane is a Celtic festival which signals the beginning of the bright half of the year. *Beltane* may be translated as "fires of Bel" or "brilliant fire" and is named after the god Belenus. The festival begins on Beltane Eve with two bonfires started from nine different woods. Domestic animals and people pass between the bonfires to eliminate disease and misfortune. In the days before electricity, the bonfire was used to light brands which rekindled lights throughout households in the village. Ancient Beltane festivals customarily included sexuality, dancing around the maypole, and singing. Modern pagan celebrations include maypole dances and jumping the cauldron for fertility purposes. Fertility in this sense is extended beyond reproduction and includes fertility of imagination and other similar concepts.*

*From The University of Kansas Medical Center, Diversity Calendar

OVER THE TOP

by David Reed, Vice President, Ways and Means

By next month, we will have finalized the Stewardship campaign, but we want to give you a brief and exciting update.

As of the middle of April, we have \$142,000 in pledges, which is about \$5,000 over the pledge goal. The congregation has really stepped up in another tough year. We greatly appreciate all of the generous responses we have gotten from the congregation. With your help, we are able to sustain the spirit of liberal religion in the Chattanooga area.

There are still around a dozen folks we haven't been able to get hold of yet. So we believe the final total will be a bit higher.

We want to thank each of you for making this Stewardship campaign successful. The Rev. Jeff Briere challenged us all to step up this year, and you have exceeded that challenge.

BUDGET REVIEW

An in depth budget review will be held on Saturday, May 15th at 10:00. This is in response to the request from some of our members that we spend more time explaining the yearly budget before we vote on it at the Annual Meeting. It is also in response to a request from other members that we keep the Annual meeting as short as possible. If you have any questions about the budget, or want more detailed explanation of how and why the Finance Committee came up with the proposed budget they did, this meeting is the best time to get those answers. We will look at the budget line by line, and answer questions as we go. Please RSVP your interest in attending this meeting so we can have enough copies of the budget (but not too many) ready by calling Diane Reed at 838-5240 by Friday, May 14th.

(NOT) YOUR ORDINARY MOTHER'S DAY COLUMN
by Kay McCurdy, Director of Religious Education

The past few weeks I've been considering how to approach this month's column...and hoping I could compose something out of the ordinary to celebrate the many extraordinary mothers I'm fortunate to love (and learn from) on a daily basis. Except....I loathe the trite and the clichéd, and nothing ground-breaking or revolutionary has appeared in my draft articles. The newsletter deadline is tomorrow morning. Yikes.

Flash forward to this morning and our monthly Religious Education committee meeting. Suddenly, I realize that many of the folks whose mothering skills I most admire happen to be sitting at the table, which is not surprising, perhaps, except that one of them doesn't have any children and another one is a dude. And then, like a bat upside the head, it hit me: Mothers aren't necessarily folks with a uterus or a passel of children clinging to their ankles. Mothers are people who **mother**, who actively seek out whoever (and whatever) needs care, attention and nourishment.

Once I opened up that particular can of worms, I lost count of the amazing array of magical mothers who popped into my head. And, rather than feeling resentful that Mother's Day had been hijacked, I felt completely energized. I love imagining Rev Jeff, surrounded by a field of tulips and his "children" (our church members). Okay, maybe the tulip imagery is a bit much, but you get the picture. Isn't it wonderful to see the Mother in others? When we look for those qualities, it's hard not to smile at the thought and grant each other the gift of a thank you.

For instance, Paul Adler is a Mother. He cares for our church building with tenderness, and no small amount of blood, sweat and tears. Just because he didn't give birth to the building after twenty-three hours of hard labor doesn't make him any less worthy of the title.

Daidee Springer is a Mother. She absolutely has every ounce of my respect and love for the unlimited supply of nurturing she freely gives to our church family. Don't let her genuinely sweet smile and small stature fool you. That woman is a lioness who would rip the head off and...Well. Let's just say she is very protective of our church, and we are beyond lucky to have her on our side.

And, meriting their own paragraph, we have Helen Solomon and Martha Berry. How much beauty and strength can a body hold? Witness these two gold medal Mothers. There is nothing more wonderful than walking into church and seeing each of them shining brightly. I look at them with wonder and with awe, and imagine their arms spreading out, wide enough to tuck us all safely in, each and every night.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Jeannie Hacker-Cerulean ~ May 1
Pam Johnson ~ May 1
Tim McKee ~ May 5
Carol Hobbs ~ May 7
Diane Davison ~ May 8
Jeff Briere ~ May 10
Joshua Solomon ~ May 10
Sophie McCurdy ~ May 14
Stephanie Smullen ~ May 15
John Nelson ~ May 17



Barbara Berry-Jordan ~ May 11
Buck O'Rear ~ May 18
alex kunesh ~ May 20
Isabel Dillard ~ May 24
Margaret Hudson ~ May 24
Sue Welborn ~ May 25
Madeline Boshers ~ May 26
George Helton ~ May 26
George Olin ~ May 26
Sam Kertay ~ May 30

A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT
by Eric Papendorp, President, Board of Trustees

Most days, I am extremely proud to be a member of our church. Most days. Sunday, March 14, 2010 was not one of those days. On this day, Reverend Don Kaller filled in for Jeff while he is on sabbatical. Reverend Kaller is a retired Presbyterian minister who gives much of his time to an organization called *Living Water International* which exists to help “communities acquire desperately needed clean water...” This organization is also a Christian organization. Rev. Kaller began by reading from John 4:1-24. At this point, 10 to 15 people stood up and walked out of the sanctuary. I found this display of intolerance to be extremely embarrassing. Let me tell you why.

1. The March newsletter was very clear on what would be going on in the Sanctuary on March 14: “The Living Water—The Rev. Don Kaller will draw inspiration from John 4:1-24 to discuss installing water purification systems in needy places.” Seems pretty clear to me that there was going to be some “Bible talk” going on. If this is not your cup of tea, that’s OK. Make other plans that day.
2. I would be willing to bet that these people would not have left if Rev. Kaller had read from the Qur’an, the Bhagavad Gita, the Pali Canon of Buddhism, the Analects of Confucius, or even the New Yorker. What is it about the Bible that makes some of us act against our Unitarian Universalist (UU) Principles?
3. Speaking of our UU Principles, how many Principles are violated by such an exodus from our sanctuary?

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person - **not much respect shown to our guest’s worth and dignity**
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations - **not much compassion shown**
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations - **obviously no acceptance**
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning - **apparently only as long as you don’t read the Bible**
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all - **this behavior does not promote peace**
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Five out of our seven principles violated.

4. And it’s not just our Principles—has anybody read the bylaws of the Unitarian Universalist Association?

Section C-2.3. Non-discrimination: The Association **declares and affirms its special responsibility**, and that of its member congregations and organizations, to promote the full participation of persons in all of its and their activities and in the full range of human endeavor without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, age, language, citizenship status, economic status, or national origin and **without requiring adherence to any particular interpretation of religion or to any particular religious belief or creed.**

I am not trying to criticize or embarrass individuals, but I am trying to make an important point. We *ARE* the cornerstone of liberal religion in our country. One of our fundamental values is that we accept and support all beliefs, as long as they are not harmful to others. Not some. Not most. All. We *DO* have a “special responsibility” to make sure that this sort of discrimination does not cross our threshold. I am proud to be a UU. I hope that you are as well. If so, let’s walk the walk—not just talk the talk.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY...HERE TO STAY?

by Dez Papendorp, Small Group Ministry Coordinator

Look, y'all, more fabulous photos! Despite a rainy morning, AvenUe Q happily walked carrying banners and raising funds to benefit Chattanooga Cares. Chattanooga Cares focuses on AIDS education, prevention and support, offering many services within our community. Right On AvenUe Q for showing up and caring!



AvenUe Q, part of UCC Small Group Ministry, marches in the Strides of March.

Small Group Ministry (SGM) is starting to wrap up its first official year here at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga. May brings a time for reflection within all the groups. An evaluation will be offered to every participant, soliciting their input. Groups will have their last scheduled meeting times before summer kicks in. From some, I hear grumbles about not wanting to stop and from others, sighs of relief that summer break is almost here. Regardless of where you stand, May shifts SGM from spring into summer mode.

Summer welcomes a time for potential planning for a continued and renewed Small Group Ministry program come autumn 2010. Of course, we decide as a church whether this is possible. No singular person can carry a program forward that encompasses over 40 participants. Dreams and vision are lovely, but they need working shoulders to rest upon. If you crave more opportunities to live ministry in its "funnest" and finest form, STEP UP and make your willingness known. You don't have to over-commit yourself to make an important contribution.

There is no promise of Small Group Ministry being around beyond this summer if ambivalence reigns. **I will show up and care only if you do as well.** Please communicate your willingness to have ongoing SGM here by delivering a completed evaluation or committing to being a part of the continued planning process this summer. You can contact me in person or through the church web site. Come mid-June, if I find I am alone in this continued pursuit for this dream of Small Group Ministry, there will be no program next year, and I will remember and celebrate a remarkable and moving time of fellowship and service.

A SMALL GROUP MINISTRY GROUP IS MEMORABLE!

Small group ministry THOM's (Thursdays Once a Month) church project created cards from pictures taken of members of the congregation throughout the years and also created a "memory" board. In the process, donated pictures were scanned onto CD to preserve pieces of our Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church of Chattanooga's history. Keep an eye out for the memory board and to see if you recognize a fellow UUer!

CUPCAKE COOK-OFF

The Interfaith Homeless Network cordially invites you to attend the "Mom Takes The Cake" - Cupcake Taste Off on Mother's Day, May 9th, 11-4 at the First Tennessee Pavilion. All proceeds will support the Interfaith Homeless Network's mission to help homeless families become stable, employed and housed.

PLATE-ITUDES*by Karl Hunt*

In March we once again matched our Double the Plate donor's pledge of \$400, albeit with a little extra post-service effort on the part of some Double the Plate Angels. On May 9th we'll have our biggest challenge of the year; our donor has promised to match up to \$500. Save your pennies! Skip a few of those Starbuck lattes (you didn't need those calories anyway)! We can match this donor!

Also, keep in mind that on May 30th we'll Share the Plate with a worthy charity.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT IN**May 5 at 6:30 pm**

This month Wolfgang Poe is hosting. I don't know what's on the menu, but it's sure to be yummy! Donations of \$5 per adult and \$3 per child are appreciated to contribute towards the cost of meal preparation. Miranda Cagle will be sharing the first in a series of taped interviews from the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Seminar Series on the topic "The Paradox of Affluence." Each tape is approximately one hour in length. Please join us for dinner and conversation! If you have questions, please contact Leslie Brock.

If You're So Rich, How Come You're Not Happier? America's Difficult Relationship with Class, Material Success, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

Ray Suarez, Author and Senior Correspondent for PBS' *The NewsHour*

The former host of NPR's *Talk of the Nation*, journalist Ray Suarez joined PBS' *The NewsHour* as a Washington-based senior correspondent in 1999. A longstanding member of the Washington press corps, Suarez is well-known for his expertise on quintessentially American issues, including politics, demographics, race and religion. He has also released several critically-acclaimed books, including *The Old Neighborhood: What We Lost in the Great Suburban Migration: 1966-1999* and his latest, *The Holy Vote: The Politics of Faith in America*. An observer of the changing nature of communities and the intersection of religion and politics, Suarez shares fascinating insight into the evolution of American life. Suarez holds a BA in African history from New York University and an MA in the social sciences from the University of Chicago. He has been awarded honorary doctorates by many colleges and universities, most recently by Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania.

SUMI-E PAINTING WORKSHOP

Attention artsy-craftsy UU adults! You are invited to attend a free Sumi-e ink painting workshop at the church on Saturday, May 22nd, from 9 am to 3 pm. During this workshop we will use simple brush strokes to capture the essence of an object on sumi paper. Artists will select their best painting for mounting on a colorful hand-dyed scroll. The scrolls will be exhibited on our walls in June and July. A lunch of tea, sushi, and miso soup will be served. Contact Carol Hobbs at 706-861-6401 to register. We will let "...the brush dance and the ink sing." All materials are provided.

**CHIONS**

The Chattanooga Institute of Noetic Science will meet on May 8th, 10:30 to noon. Dr. Roger Thompson presents *How Do We Compete with the Streets?* There is a gang problem in Chattanooga. We will look at the challenges we face with gangs and other types of criminal activities that influence our lifestyle and define our well-being. Also, focus will be on where do we go from here? How can we improve conditions? Dr. Roger Thompson is an Associate Professor in Criminal Justice at UTC. He is active and involved in the Chattanooga community through projects and committees related to crime prevention strategies. Recently he was appointed by Mayor Ron Littlefield to the Board for the Office of Multicultural Affairs to head up another Crime Task Force. If not familiar with this report---see www.chattanooga.gov/TaskForceReports.htm.

LOOKOUTS OUTING!

When? Friday, May 21st 7:15 pm

What? Our annual church pilgrimage to a Lookouts game

Who? Chattanooga Lookouts vs. Carolina Mudcats

Where? AT&T Field

How much? Tickets are a mere \$2.00 each because we get a group rate

Extras? Fireworks after the game



Details? Sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall or call the church office to reserve your seats. All tickets **must be reserved and paid for** no later than Wednesday, May 12th. Tickets will be available for pickup at the church on Sunday, May 16th and thereafter. They must be picked up before the game.

Questions? Contact Daidee Springer.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	5/2	5/9	5/16	5/23	5/30
TOPIC	The Palette that Colors Life	It's Mother's Day Somewhere	The Tipping Point	It Will Soon be Decoration Day	Beyond 2012
LEADER	Rev. Jim Philpott	Rev. Jim Philpott	Rev. Jim Philpott	Rev. Jim Philpott	Mike North
BOT MEMBER	Bonnie Sinclair	Donna Crompton	Kristie McKinley	Diane Davison	Maddie Kertay
GREETERS AND USHERS	Pat Mann Richard Ralston Steve Sherman	Carolyn Moore Charles Redwine Elaine Watkins	Yvonne Derrickson Ken Nickerson Donna Crompton	Kristie McKinley Jesse Blue Sue Knight	Monique Lewis Tim Kleve Nancy Beel
MUSIC	Ann Pope	Special Music by the Choir; Children's Bell Choir	McCallie Guitar Quartet; Children's Bell Choir	Greg White Hunt	Steve Hollingsworth
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Eric Davis	David Reed	Rich Dwyer	Ory Weaver	Joshua Goldman

To conquer fear is the beginning of wisdom.
~ Bertrand Russell

UCC SEDER!

Many years ago, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga began celebrating the Seder each spring. This has become a favorite event at the church that is so popular it requires pre-registration and limits on attendance! Many thanks to Rose Ann Copeland for sharing some photos of this year's celebration.



To left:
Helen and Ray Solomon, founding members of the UCC and instrumental in establishing the Seder tradition in our church

To right: Participants in the Seder



Above and to right:
Rich Dwyer and Kay McCurdy leading the Seder celebration.



ART ON THE WALLS

by Carol Hobbs

During most of May our church will house the touring art show *Voices for Appalachia - A Portrait Story Project*. In 2008, members of United Mountain Defense presented artist Francesco di Santis with the request of drawing portraits combined with handwritten narratives of coal country residents. A 2-year journey across Appalachia and the creation of 500 graphite and mixed media portraits followed that request.

United Mountain Defense is a volunteer organization committed to halting mountaintop removal coal mining, promoting clean energy, protecting the cultural and natural heritage of Appalachia, and promoting sustainable Appalachian economies. The Portrait Story Project strives to document the social issues and rich cultural heritage of its subjects. Dozens of households representing multiple demographics reveal "...there is no one Appalachia..." To learn more, visit www.voicesforappalachia.org.

POETRY CORNER

I got the idea for the following love poem from Billy Collins, who wrote a poem with the same title. In case you are interested, his version can be found in his book, *Nine Horses* - it's really wonderful!

AIMLESS LOVE

This morning as I walked along the sidewalk
I fell in love with a mailbox, and later
with a dogwood by the side of the road,
its blossoms silent and dewy.

In the shadows of a spring evening,
I fell for the pasta sauce
bubbling in the skillet,
and later for the hardwood floor
glowing in the lamp's yellow light.

This is the best kind of love.

The love of the fallen leaf,
tweed trousers, and the feel of my hair
against my bare back.

The love of three lemons
in a bowl by the window,
the red cardinal perched on my wooden fence,
the snores of the dog curled up at my feet.

No drama, no angst, no cutting remarks -
just a pang every so often

for the wasp who died on the ledge
of the window
and for the daredevil squirrel
who darts across the road
in front of my car.

~ Nancy Beel

April 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

May 2010

June 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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30a Forum 9:30a Pagan Group 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE	3 9:00a SGM	4 1:00p SGM 6:30p SGM	5 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p Wed. Night In 6:30p SGM	6	7	8 10:30a CHIONS 6:00p Bridge Group
9 9:30a Forum 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE	10 6:30p SGM Facilitator Mtg (Forum Room)	11	12 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p SGM	13	14	15 2:30p Wright Memorial Service
16 9:30a Forum 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE 12:15p Annual Meeting	17	18 1:00p SGM 6:30p SGM	19 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p SGM 7:00p Board Meeting	20	21 7:00a Lookouts Game	22 9:00a Sumi-Art Workshop
23 9:30a Forum 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE 2:00p Environmental Video	24	25	26 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p SGM	27	28	29
30 9:30a Forum 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE 12:00p Memorial Garden	31					