



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

*Board President
Eric Papendorp*

*Minister
Rev. Jeff Briere*

*Religious Education
Director
Kay McCurdy*

*Music Director
Kate Briere*

*Church Administrator
Chris Tregaskis*

*the nUUSletter Editor
Wendy Sapp*

[RETURN TO UUC
HOMEPAGE](#)

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

*“In 1787 I’m told
Our founding fathers did agree
To write a list of principles
For keepin’ people free.”*

~ Lynn Ahrens, School House Rock, “Preamble”

I haven’t gazed upon the Constitution of the United States of America since I took a sixth grade field trip to the National Archives. And although I sing the “preamble song” with my kids, I have honestly not thought about the meaning of our nation’s Constitution for many, many years. I know it’s important, it is the longest standing democratic constitution ever, but it can be a more than a little dry to read in its entirety. So I have plodded along, like many others, enjoying the liberties and rights provided by our Constitution without really giving it a second thought.

Last month I had the opportunity to again visit Washington DC and the National Archives, this time with a sixth grader of my own. What a difference a couple of decades make. This time I was entranced by the Constitution: the paper, the handwriting, the signatures, and, of course, the words. **“We the People...”** That’s pretty powerful stuff for just three words. To me it says, “We wrote this. We choose this. We empower this. We are a Democracy.” And that’s just the first three words, it keeps getting better. **Freedom of Speech. Freedom of Religion. Government for the People by the People.** This is the stuff that people in other countries die for. Ideals for which Americans have sacrificed their lives.

Because of this document, we as a Unitarian Universalist Church are able to exist. We can believe what we want, say what we will, practice our beliefs however we choose. We even employ democratic principles in our church governance, both locally and nationally. I am not always proud of the actions of our government, but I am proud of the beliefs inscribed in our Constitution.

INSIDE THE NUUSLETTER:

Services and Forums.....	2
UU101.....	2
Small Group Ministry.....	6
What Do You Say.....	7
Winter Solstice.....	9
Share the Plate.....	10
Coffeehouse.....	10
Guest at Your Table.....	11
Thanksgiving at the Church.....	12
Service Schedule.....	12
aUUCction.....	13
Poetry Corner.....	13

SUNDAY SERVICES ♦ 11:00 AM

NOVEMBER 7 ♦ 20 QUESTIONS: WHAT GIVES LIFE MEANING?

Drawing from a college philosophy textbook, the Rev. Jeff Briere delves into the meaning of life. Leo Tolstoy, the Dalai Lama, bell hooks and Mary Oliver weigh in.

NOVEMBER 14 ♦ THREE PROPHETS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERALISM

The Rev. Jeff Briere leads this service which focuses on the influence of William Ellery Channing, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Theodore Parker in the development of Unitarian Universalism.

NOVEMBER 21 ♦ MILLE GRAZIE! THANK YOU A THOUSAND TIMES

A Thanksgiving worship service led by the Rev. Jeff Briere with special music from the choir.

NOVEMBER 28 ♦ IF YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE A BITE OUT OF LIFE, USE CHOPSTICKS

The ever popular Mike North will be returning as our guest speaker this Sunday. Mike says, "As I celebrated my 50th birthday, I used the opportunity for introspection and reflection. I will be sharing some of the thoughts and observations that will guide me during the next phase of my life."

SUNDAY FORUMS

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

November 7 - Martha and Chuck Sternbergh, two of the founders of the Children's Nutritional Program of Haiti, will update us on what they and others are doing in Haiti.

November 14 - We will discuss public education, using *Leave No Child Behind*, by James P. Comer, as our main resource. Blake Moore will be the facilitator.

November 21 - "Good Without God" is written by Greg M. Epstein, the Humanist Chaplain at Harvard University. Humanists have a lot to say about this. Blake Moore will facilitate.

November 28 - The evolutionary "epic" of creation. Has science given us a "new" religion? Are humans engaged in the sixth extinction? Will the cenozoic era become the "ecozoic" era? Bring your wide open mind. Blake Moore will be the facilitator.

UU 101

The Rev. Jeff Briere will offer a three-session class in Unitarian and Universalist history, the history of this church and the makeup of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Also covered is your own personal faith journey. The dates are November 9, 23, & 30, each night at 7 pm. This class is especially recommended for new members and those considering membership. Please register by calling the office or signing up on the roster on the minister's door.

THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB

by Steve Hollingsworth

Reciprocity lies at the heart of UUSC's partnership model. While we provide assistance to our partners, their experience and expertise, in turn, enrich UUSC, enhancing our ability to advocate for goals we share in common.

~ from UUSC.org

Safe drinking water and basic sanitation are intrinsic to human survival, well-being and dignity.

~ UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

On a pleasant afternoon in late September, we had the pleasure of spending an hour at our dining room table with Maxine Neil. Maxine is Director of Institutional Advancement at the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). UUSC is an organization separate from and independent of our denominational structure but carries UU in its name because of the congruence in values and overlap in membership. It works for human rights, social, economic, and environmental justice worldwide.

We have long had good feelings about their work and have supported it regularly in our annual giving. How long? Well, Maxine left us a little memento commemorating ten years of continuous membership, but she hastened to assure us that it was actually thirteen years—we just weren't yet to the next milestone. Isn't it nice to know that someone is keeping such close track?

Our conversation reminded me and reinforced how modest a profile UUSC has overseas as it pursues its work. Too often waste, unintended consequences, and, at worst, an Ugly American image result when ills are diagnosed and solutions dispensed with a Western mindset. UUSC in contrast looks for effective local organizations that understand how a problem can be addressed but lack resources and/or certain technical skills. That is an approach that has proven effective, able to produce outsized results for modest investments of money and expertise.

The United Nations General Assembly declared in July that access to clean water and sanitation is a basic human right. My writing this column coincides with "Blog Action Day" that asked writers to lift up tragic facts like more deaths each year from contaminated water than from all forms of war and violence combined. I'm happy to do my part and delighted to find out that UUSC is showing its acumen in making a difference.

In Tanzania, a nation with plentiful water supplies but serious distribution and access problems, the answer appears to be political. UUSC's partner, the Tanzania Gender and Networking Programme, is showing that mobilizing women in the political process can get results.

Whether it is change you put in "Guest at Your Table" boxes (see page 11 for more information), a donation for Share the Plate (see page 10 for more information), giving at www.UUSC.org, or sending a check to Boston, every penny will matter. Join us in supporting UUSC.

FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS VS PERSONAL CONVICTIONS

adapted from a speech by Phil Hatlen

In recent years, I've experienced tremendous growth in my spiritual life. I only mention it because one of the aspects of that growth has been to examine, within myself, what I choose to call (1) fundamental truths and (2) personal convictions.

If it is a fundamental truth, I should "go to the mat" for it. If it is a personal conviction, then I must allow others to hold their personal convictions and participate in non-aggressive, non-attacking discussion with a foundation of mutual respect. When I get into trouble in this world is when I defend a personal conviction as though it was a fundamental truth. Then I lose the power and advantage a fundamental truth gives me, and I become confused and confusing.

GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE
by Sandy Kurtz, Green Sanctuary

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Interfaith Power & Light has begun an effort called *Eat, Pray, Save the Planet*. Congregations are asked to think about how food affects our health and that of the planet. You can supply your opinion by going to http://action.interfaithpowerandlight.org/site/c.dmJUKgOZJil8G/b.6331419/k.57AF/Eat_Pray_Save_the_Planet.htm?tr=y&aid=7168618. In harvest time, it is fitting to pause and reflect on our interdependence as part of the web of life that supports us. What a fortunate happenstance! As UU Rachel Carson once observed, “*The affinity of the human spirit for the earth and its beauties is deeply and logically rooted. As human beings, we are part of the whole stream of life.*”

SUNNY DAYS

The Solar Exploration Committee continues to gather information that will result in recommendations regarding use of solar energy to reduce both our carbon footprint and church operational costs. Committee members made a trip in October to the Northwest Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Atlanta where they attended a service and learned about the solar panels placed on the church roof seen here in Ken Beaver's photo.

**AND SPEAKING OF SOLAR....**

EarthCare will hold its annual Fall Retreat on Saturday, November 6th, 9:30 - 2:00 at the Tennessee River Gorge Trust's Pot Point Field House. This free event includes relaxation, fellowship, lunch, and a solar program from EPB. Please pre-register by email at activities@earthcareonline.org, or call (706) 278-3979. See the [EarthCare website](#) for more information.

PAGAN NUUS**November**

Oct. 31-Nov 2- Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

6 – New Moon 12:52 am

7 – Study Group 9:30 am- Topic: Ancient Middle Eastern Religions, led by James Joyner

21 – Full Moon 12:27 pm



When the Spanish Conquistadors landed in what is now Mexico, they encountered natives practicing a ritual that seemed to mock death—a ritual the indigenous people had been practicing at least 3,000 years, Día de los Muertos or Day of the Dead. The Aztecs and other Meso-American civilizations displayed skulls during the ritual. The skulls were used to symbolize death and rebirth. The skulls were used to honor the dead, whom the Aztecs and other Meso-American civilizations believed came back to visit during the month-long ritual.

Unlike the Spaniards, who viewed death as the end of life, the natives viewed it as the continuation of life. To them, life was a dream and only in death did they become truly awake. The Spaniards considered the ritual to be sacrilegious. In their attempts to convert the natives to Catholicism, the Spaniards tried to kill the ritual, but the ritual refused to die. To make the ritual more Christian, the Spaniards moved it so it coincided with All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day (Nov. 1 and 2), which is when it is celebrated today. Festivities were presided over by the goddess Mictecacihuatl, known as "Lady of the Dead". Although it has since been merged with Catholic theology, it still maintains the basic principles of the Aztec ritual. Today, people don wooden skull masks called calacas and dance in honor of their deceased relatives. The wooden skulls are also placed on altars that are dedicated to the dead. Sugar skulls, made with the names of the dead person on the forehead, are eaten by a relative or friend. In rural Mexico, people visit the cemetery where their loved ones are buried and decorate gravesites with marigold flowers and candles. They bring toys for dead children and bottles of tequila to adults. They sit on picnic blankets next to gravesites and eat the favorite food of their loved ones.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NUUS
IN PRAISE OF SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**
by Kay McCurdy

Are you wondering why in the heck the Director of Religious Education (DRE) is writing about Small Group Ministry? No worries, I'm happy to explain. After joining SGM last year, loving it, and signing up this fall for a second-go-round, I've been itching to share the good news. Have you tried Small Group Ministry? Do you have any idea what those mysterious groups are up to each month? I feel strongly that the work that's been done by Dez Papendorp (and now Wendy Sapp) to create and sustain SGM in our congregation is a positive step into the future. As DRE, I hope to incorporate elements of SGM into our Youth program next year. It's a model whose time has come.

Nervous and a bit wary....that's how I felt the first time I sat in the meeting circle and waited for the SGM facilitator to explain the rules. Would we be holding hands and meditating? Solving the world's problems, one at a time? Running naked through the woods while beating on drums? The answers: Nope, not at all and under no circumstances. Small Group Ministry isn't therapy, but it can be therapeutic. It isn't a support group, but members undoubtedly feel supported. Imagine a place where confidentiality is the rule and judgment is suspended....a safe zone where you're encouraged to speak your truths, whatever they may be....an environment that teaches you how to listen with your whole heart and mind. Now, instead of hand-picking a select group of your closest friends to create the group....imagine randomly choosing Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UCC) folks you don't know. People you've maybe bumped into before, or after, service, but never actually spoken with, like....the woman who always wears those fabulous boots or the man with the contagious laugh.

Thankfully, the UCC is a small enough church that it's possible to have a friendly rapport with most of the members and friends who attend regularly, but Small Group Ministry allows us to get to know each other on a deeper and more substantial level. In my case, I rarely have the opportunity to chat with grown-ups, as my job keeps me busy downstairs. I am grateful for SGM because it allows me to engage meaningfully with other UUs, and with the community at large....which brings me to the next part of the puzzle: service. My absolute favorite part of Small Group Ministry is the church and community service projects that each group commits to perform during their year together. THOM, the group I participated in last year, spent a wonderful day painting at *Room at the Inn*. We sent cards to church members and scanned photos to create a memory board for the fellowship area. Other groups led Sunday services, fed folks at the Ronald McDonald House and sponsored awesome church events like the Chili Cook-Off.

There's nothing more nourishing than being with people you care about and working toward a common goal. Last night was the first meeting of the group I've joined for this year. There are new folks, new stories, new opportunities for me to quiet my mind (no easy task) and listen. As a flawed human being, I need that. I need to come to a full stop and allow myself to be present, for others, for myself, without needing to be in charge or be clever. It sounds very new-age and touchy-feely. It isn't. Small Group Ministry is real people making real connections in real time. It's hard and it's easy. And so, so worth whatever time and energy you give it.

Thanks for allowing me to express how much Small Group Ministry has meant, and continues to mean, to me.

WANT TO JOIN SGM?

Are you interested in joining a Small Group Ministry group? There is a group for everyone: general groups, a couples group, and a parenting group. All groups are open to new members. If you would like more information, please contact Dez Papendorp or Wendy Sapp.

COMMUNITY, GROWTH, AND SERVICE
SMALL GROUP MINISTRY NEWS
by Wendy Sapp, SGM Co-coordinator

Small Group Ministry is off to a roaring start this fall with four solid groups, each meeting once or twice a month. We have two affinity groups—one for parents and one for couples—and two general groups. All the groups have held at least one meeting and are charged with excitement about the new year of Small Group Ministry. These groups are open to new members at any time and the program has the flexibility to grow to accommodate all those who are interested.

But why would someone be interested in Small Group Ministry? What would draw people from their cozy homes and busy lives to come to church one more time? Each participant will have a different answer to that question. (You know it's true: If you ask 10 Unitarian Universalists a question, you'll get at least 11 different answers!) If you are curious, Kay McCurdy gives her answer to this question in her article on p. 5. Despite the individual reasons for being part of Small Group Ministry, I think most answers would fall into three categories: community, growth, and service.

Community: SGM offers an avenue to develop a greater sense of community within the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga. You meet 6-9 new people in your group. And you will not only be putting names with faces, but getting to know them, and they you, on a deep, personal level. The connections through SGM build a community that is not only broad but deep.

Growth: Most participants find that participating in SGM results in growth. Some call it spiritual growth, others personal growth, and others just plain old growth. (Remember, 10 UUs = 11 answers!) Whatever you call it, SGM offers the chance to grow. Perhaps the growth comes from self-reflection or from listening to others share their experiences. Maybe the growth comes from the practice of listening and sharing on a deep, intentional level. Or the growth could come from simply being more involved in our church community or from providing a group service project to our neighbors. SGM offers these and countless other opportunities for growth. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your path, SGM gives you the chance to grow.

Service: Many first time participants in SGM balk at the idea of a group service project. If they wanted to do more service they'd sign up for another service committee. How can 6-10 people possibly agree on one service project and coordinate their schedules? And you know, we are all so busy who has the time for one more commitment? But...almost unanimously those who participate in the service projects find them meaningful, fun, and inspiring. In fact, they can't wait for the next SGM service project opportunity!

Community...Growth...Service...

So are you looking to strengthen your sense of community within our liberal religious faith? Maybe you would like an opportunity for spiritual or personal growth? Perhaps the idea of providing service within a community appeals to you. If you are already in SGM, I hope that you are finding what you seek. If not, please tell the co-coordinators, Dez Papendorp and Wendy Sapp. If you are curious about SGM or ready to commit to a group, please let Dez or Wendy know by going to <http://uuc.org/about-the-uuc/small-group-ministry> and sending us a message or you can contact us through the church office.



The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.
 ~ Mahatma Gandhi quotes

**WHAT DO YOU SAY?
AN R.E. WORKSHOP FOR YOUTH**

Together let's explore what YOU say when some else ask: What's Unitarian Universalism? It's a somewhat tricky question to answer. Answers to this vary depending on where you are and who's asking.

WHO: Any child 3rd grade to High School student

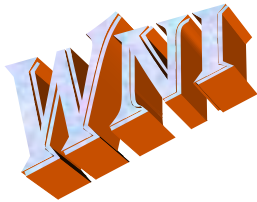
WHERE: Church

WHEN: January 16th, Sunday after church service from 12:30-2:30p.

WHAT TO BRING: Your creative thoughts, experiences and a sack lunch.

Parents, this is a drop off event. We have 3-4 adult volunteers to run this 2 hour workshop. RE will provide drinks and chips for the youth attending; we will not provide lunch (you bring that for your child/ren). You are encouraged to sign them in, leave church and return to pick them up afterwards, promptly at 2:30p. If you stick around, we might put you to work!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT IN IS ON HIATUS



We have been having an ongoing challenge in getting hosts for Wednesday Night In, so WNI is going on hiatus for a few months. If anyone is interested in hosting, please contact Leslie Brock and she will set up a schedule.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Lee Adler ~ November 4
Dottie Antman ~ November 4
Inga Johannesen ~ November 6
Ira Long ~ November 9
Roger Davis ~ November 10
Keegan Ford ~ November 12
Leslie O'Rear ~ November 15
Harold Linn ~ November 16

Gary Sottong ~ November 20
Sharon Locke ~ November 21
John Standridge ~ November 21
Rose Ann Copeland ~ November 23
Matt Long ~ November 23
Stacie Tippens ~ November 23
Bart Johnson ~ November 26
Pat Whitaker ~ November 27
Chris Boshers ~ November 28

DID YOU HEAR IT AGAIN?

Many of you have chosen to borrow CDs of sermons that are available at the church. The CDs are loaned out on an honor system, and some people are failing to return them to the church. If you have any CDs of sermons, please return them as soon as you have listened so others may hear them as well. Thank you!

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).

WHEN TO CALL THE MINISTER

by Jeff Briere, Minister

A famous person—I can't say who, exactly, but he must have lived in Detroit—once said, “Don't re-invent the wheel. Just put some chrome on it.”

There's a wheel in the piece below, and I have added a little chrome here and there. When you want to call your minister, he can be reached at his home office. Just call 423-624-8152, or his cell phone, 423-667-0855. You can also send a message to minister@uuc.org. He can usually meet you within the hour if your need is critical.

“When To Call The Minister” has been recreated and revised, attributed and mis-attributed, over the years, as things in newsletters often are. Universalist minister Peter Lee Scott wrote the original for the Elm City Universalist Church in New Haven, CT in 1957. He reports being amazed and amused to see it appear in so many other newsletters.

When to Call the Minister?

When you haven't met me yet, but would like to.

When you have problems to discuss—about anything.

When a sympathetic ear might help.

When you're going in the hospital or know someone else who is.

When someone close to you dies or is critically ill.

When you're planning to be married, or might need to be.

When you return from vacation.

When your daughter graduates from college.

When you have a child to be dedicated.

When you're pregnant but wish you weren't.

When you've been arrested, or ought to be.

When you want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism.

When you're scared.

When you'd like to make a bequest to the church.

When your son gets a big promotion.

When you're considering joining the congregation.

When you'd like to show us what a good cook you are!

When a friend of your wants to know more about our faith.

When you have suggestions about the programs for the church.

When you have suggestions for a sermon or about the worship services.

When you'd like to help with committee work or congregational activities.

When you want to discuss community issues or would like my involvement.

When you're mad at me.

When you'd like to talk religion with me.

WINTER SOLSTICE INDOOR WALKING LABYRINTH
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21
5:45-7:15 pm

Religious Education youth and volunteers will sponsor our church's 3rd annual Winter Solstice Labyrinth. Please consider this our gift to you and yours during a normally hectic time of year.

A Brief Historical Story of the Labyrinth...

For over 4,000 years humans have left traces of labyrinths scattered on our planet. Labyrinths emerge and re-emerge over generations, morphing slightly to fit the aesthetic times of cultures. Some of the earliest findings of walking labyrinth designs, located in southern Europe and northern Africa and dating from 2000 BCE, take the form of rock carvings. The Ancient Romans began laying mosaic pavements in complex designs. These Roman walking labyrinths have been found in various places throughout the Roman Empire. In Medieval times, a monk named Otfrid is credited with adding more complexity. Otfrid's eleven circuit design becomes the blueprint for beautifully designed floors within many churches and cathedrals across Europe. Christian churches utilize their labyrinth designs as a method of pilgrimage for ardent Christians unable to visit the Holy Land. For followers of First Nations' spirituality, labyrinths have been closely related to their relationship with the medicine wheel. Buddhists find it an avenue to practice "the Buddhist walking meditation." A labyrinth is simply a large design which allows an individual to travel a journey starting out, going in and then back out again.



What can I expect at *this* In-Door Labyrinth?

A quiet, candle lit design within a climate controlled sanctuary. It is an experience which is very individually focused. Paradoxically, the communal nature of the walk also allows for reflecting on the way you relate to others you may meet. You only have to enter and follow the path. Allow a slow pace and see where your mind takes you.

Please mark your calendar and invite a UU or non-UU to attend. All are welcome to participate.

UUC Board of Directors

President, Eric Papendorp

President-Elect, Wolfgang Poe

VP, Programs, Kristie McKinley

VP, Religious Education Bonny Sinclair

VP, Ways and Means, Frank Caperton

Secretary, Donna Crompton

Treasurer, Diane Davison

Assistant Treasurer, George Helton

SHARE THE PLATE

On November 21st, we will share the plate with the Community Kitchen. The Community Kitchen has been helping homeless people since 1992. Sadly, the need for their service is growing. According to information gathered for the *City's Blueprint to End Chronic Homelessness*, more than 4,094 individuals experience homelessness each year in Chattanooga, with over 1,000 homeless children in public schools. Each night, an estimated 400-500 individuals sleep outside or in shelters, with nearly 100 of them in families.

According to data provided by the Chattanooga Regional Homeless Coalition, 61% of our area's homeless are between the ages of 30 and 54; 24% are children under 18, and 3% are over the age of 60. As many as 40% of the homeless families in Chattanooga have experienced recent domestic violence. 15-25% of our area's homeless are veterans. For more information, see the Community Kitchen's website at www.homelesschattanooga.org

Month	Share the Plate with	Amount Donated
July	Greater New Orleans UU	\$219.27
August	Minister's Benevolence Fund	\$95.00
September	Living Waters for the World	\$373.29
October	UUA	\$268.00
November	Community Kitchen	????

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.
 ~John Fitzgerald Kennedy

COFFEEHOUSE RETURNS
Friday, November 19, 2010

Our Coffeehouse returns on Friday, November 19th starting at 7 pm. Join us and experience powerful performances, decadent desserts and beguiling beverages. And Coffee. People of all ages are encouraged to share their talents in a relaxed and supportive setting. Past performances have included poetry readings, dramatic recitations, synchronized cup stacking, and, of course, music of many varieties. Appreciative audience members are especially welcome. If you have questions, please contact Catherine Long at denverlongs@msn.com or 423-886-6098.

CHIONS

CHIONS will meet on November 13th, 10:30am-noon with a presentation from Faye Henry, *Being with Gong Session*. Come to hear about, and to experience, sound therapy. Experience an immersion in sound; be bathed in the sound and vibration of 4 paiste gongs for relaxation, meditation, healing, and fun. The gong sound is organic, deep and nurturing. The "living tones" build upon each other, producing a sea of sound that is both timeless and alive. We not only hear the sound through our ears but through our bodies. The gongs affect us at the deepest cellular levels. Within this experience, tensions are released and the mind is able to stop its chattering. Hear Faye at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKekx2cvfcM>.

CELEBRATE THE GUEST AT YOUR TABLE!

by Skip Stevens



The Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will be alerted to the social justice goals of our national Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). Sunday, Nov. 21st will be the kickoff of the *Guest At Your Table* campaign, a major fundraiser for international programs.

Thanks to our support, the UUSC is working throughout the United States and around the world to advance human rights. The *Guest At Your Table* box and the booklet of stories of hope introduce us to the people whose lives have been changed by this work. The box can sit on your table and family and friends can focus on a different story of hope as we sit down to meals together and consider our many blessings. The donations put into the box can be watched as the campaign continues. Our UU

families and friends can bring human rights home and welcome Guests to our lives and give to them as much as we can.

Boxes can be picked up after church service on November 21st at the table set up in the Fellowship Area. The boxes and donation envelopes will be available at the church from that Sunday until they should be returned the first two Sundays in January.

Our church has been generous in the past to help promote social justice in the world. This is an opportunity to make a real contribution to a specific list of programs that UUSC works on in our name. Read the stories in the booklets that are in the box, you will be proud.

The money that we contribute goes to the UUSC, which uses it to help people in our country and all around the world. Some have had a terrible disaster where they live, like an earthquake or a flood from which they are working to recover. Some are working for their rights to have clean water, dignified work, educations, shelter, safety, food, and health care.

TOGETHER, WE CAN DO MORE THAN WE CAN ALONE

The UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association) wrote to offer “a warm and heartfelt message of appreciation and gratitude for [our] congregation's full financial support ...to the UUA Annual Program Fund in 2009-2010.” This appreciation is deeper due to the fact that the church contributed *at the full requested level* despite the economic recession. The letter noted that, “this level of support takes leadership, hard work, and generosity on the part of many individuals in your congregation.” The UUA wisely noted that “together, we can do more and be more than we can alone.” The Annual Program Fund contributions are essential to sustaining vital programs and services, to work on behalf those seeking advocacy and support, to give voice in opposition to the forces of oppression that are barriers to freedom and peaceful relations, and to educate our children, empower our youth, and provide nurturing and offer healing ministry for all ages and life stages.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Leslie O’Rear who recently won in two categories in the 2Northshore Photo Contest. Here is what she said about the contest:

The merchants at 2 Northshore (which includes Greenlife Grocery, Bill Shores Gallery, Smart Furniture, New Moon Gallery, Rock Creek, and many others) recently held their third annual 2Northshore photo contest. I’ve entered every year and was delighted (and frankly, surprised) to win this year in 2 of the 10 categories! My photo of blueberries won in “The Love of Food” category sponsored by Greenlife, and my photo of a rainbow umbrella won in the “Good Design/Color” category sponsored by Smart Furniture, B.D. Interiors, and C. Martin Collections. The award included a gift certificate to the sponsor’s shop, a nice winner’s reception, your print(s) professionally matted and framed, and the opportunity to sell/show your work in a sidewalk sale there at 2 Northshore. It was all a lot of fun.



SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	11/7	11/14	11/21	11/28
TOPIC	20 Questions: What Gives Life Meaning?	Three Prophets of Religious Liberalism	<i>Mille Grazie!</i> Thank You A Thousand Times	If You’re Going To Take A Bite Out Of Life, Use Chopsticks
LEADER	Rev. Jeff Briere	Rev. Jeff Briere	Rev. Jeff Briere	Mike North
GREETERS AND USHERS	Tim Kleve Nancy Beel Jesse Blue	Sue Knight Monique Lewis Kristie McKinley	Diane Davison Linda Helton Carol Hobbs	Harold Linn Stacy Tippins Eric Slaton
BOARD REP	Eric Papendorp	George Helton	Donna Crompton	Eric Papendorp
MUSIC	George Olin	Steven Hollingsworth	Kate Briere	Marcia Jenison
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Eric Davis	David Reed	Roger Davis	Joshua Goldman

**THANKSGIVING AT THE CHURCH
THURSDAY, NOV 25, 3PM**

Kate and Jeff Briere are happy once again to host Thanksgiving dinner at the church. They will prepare turkey and stuffing and gravy. You bring a green vegetable, a casserole, squash, sweet potatoes, a dessert or something else to make the table groan. Also, bring something you’d like to drink.

With apologies to Emma Lazarus, we say: Bring us your tired, your poor, your empty bellies yearning to be filled. Your hungry masses yearning to eat free.

Please bring your friends, relatives and any other hangers-on who have no family with whom to eat dinner, or whose families are too far distant to eat together.

TOP TEN REASONS TO BE PART OF THE SERVICE AND GOOD GOODS AUUCCTION

10. Because it is a fund raiser for our church
9. Because it will be a nice break from your Saturday, December 11th errands
8. Because there will be some really cool Door Prizes and you must be present to win
7. Because there will be a special Kid's Corner
6. Because there will be FOOD!
5. Because there will be Holiday Beverages!
4. Because it is a GREAT way to do some of your holiday shopping!
3. Because there will be Unique items that you won't find in Target or at the mall
2. Because it will be FUN! ! !

And the number one reason to be there:

1. Fellowship – since Jeff and Kate aren't having an Open House this year, this is an excellent time to get together with your church friends for some holiday fun.

POETRY CORNER

White Heart

The heart
is a porcelain tub
all slick and cool
and white,
it shines like
steel, a perfect
container,
its steep
sides towering
like a great wall
so that the beetles
whose jackets are
inlaid emeralds
sparkling like
colored glass
against the white,
climb up the sides
only to slide back
down, over and over,
climbing on top of
each other to get
out, but the great
slippery white
heart sends them
sliding back down again
every time.

~ Nancy Beel

