



SUNDAY SERVICES

We hope you will join us each Sunday morning. The service begins at 11:00am.

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
Elaine Hill

Minister
Rev. Jeff Briere

Religious Education
Director
Kay McCurdy

Music Director
Kate Briere

Church Administrator
Chris Tregaskis

the nUUsletter Editor
Wendy Sapp

FEBRUARY 5 ~ IN SUPPORT OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

This Sunday we welcome Andrae McGary as our guest preacher and Nancy Westmoreland as our guest pianist. We will Share the Plate with the Ruai Unitarian Universalist Church in Kenya. You can learn more about our guests on page 12 and more about Share the Plate and the Ruai UU Church on page 13.

FEBRUARY 12 ~ UNE AFFAIRE DE CŒUR

The Rev. Jeff Briere, with assistance from Elaine Watkins, offers this service dedicated to love and the health of your heart. Special music from *the chattanUUgans*.

FEBRUARY 19 ~ WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE(LIEVE) WHEN YOU GROW UP?

Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga member, Dr. Les Kertay, gives a sermon about the importance of beliefs, how they both help and hinder our efforts to lead a meaningful life, and how they pose a particular challenge to Unitarian Universalists and others of liberal religious traditions.

FEBRUARY 26 ~ TRAGEDY AND TRANSFORMATION

Today, the Rev. Jeff Briere exchanges pulpits with the Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh, minister at Westside UU Church near Knoxville. The 2008 shooting at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church affected all of us. This morning, the Reverend Mitra Jafarzadeh will tell the story of the impact the shooting on her congregation, Westside Unitarian Universalist Church (WUUC). Members of WUUC were injured in the shooting and one Westsider, Linda Kraeger, was killed that day. Rev. Jafarzadeh says, "In the three and a half years since, we have lived with, worked through, and allowed ourselves to be transformed by facing the fullness of our potential and the limits of our power." Mary Ann Barnhart, a pianist at WUUC, will provide music for this service. Read more about Rev. Jafarzadeh on p. 12.

[RETURN TO UUCD
HOMEPAGE](#)

INSIDE THE NUUSLETTER

Sunday Mornings.....	2
The Interdependent Web.....	3
Green Sanctuary Initiative.....	4
SGM nUUs.....	6
mUUsic nUUs.....	7
Who's Preaching/Who's Playing.....	12
Share the Plate.....	13
Poetry Corner.....	16

MORE OPTIONS ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

Connections

Connections meets every Sunday at 10:45 in the sanctuary. *Connections* is a time of personal sharing for members, friends, and visitors.

The Forum

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

Feb 5 ~ Humanists, Unitarian Universalists, and Camp Quest, with guest speaker Jonas Holdeman

Feb 12 ~ Watch the Friday eblast for information

Feb 19 ~ Guns, Germs and Steel, facilitated by Jim Welborn.

Feb 26 ~ Critical Thinking, facilitated by Jerry Smith, in honor of Matt Hoyt.

Pagan Study Group

The *Pagan Study Group* meets the first Sunday of each month at 9:30 am downstairs in the last room on the right. All are welcome.

February 5 ~ African Spirituality.

Chalice Circles

Chalice Circles meets the fourth Sunday of the month at 9:30 am downstairs in the first room on the left. All are welcome.

February 26~ What Do I Believe About Others

UUCC Board of Directors

President, Elaine Hill

President-Elect, Wendes Jones

VP, Programs, Yvonne Derrickson

VP, Ways and Means, Frank Caperton

VP, Religious Education, Maddie Kertay

Treasurer, George Helton

Secretary, Miranda Cagle

RISE UP AND CALL HER NAME CLASSES RESUME

Classes for adult religious education class *Rise Up and Call Her Name* will resume on Sunday February 5, 1:00-3:30 pm and continue each Sunday throughout the month of February. If you have any questions, contact Leslie Brock.

THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB
by Steve Hollingsworth



Note: This article is the second of a series honouring the 60th anniversary of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga.

Midway through [Quillen Shinn's] sermon, Joseph whispered to Mary, "That's what I am." Mary whispered back, "Make it two."

~ Willard Frank in *Darkening the Doorways*

An odyssey of the spirit began for me when I heard Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed lead a panel discussion with his co-authors of *Darkening the Doorways: Black Trailblazers and Missed Opportunities in Unitarian Universalism*, an eye-opening set of vignettes of African-American Unitarians and Universalists that put the lie to the idea that people of color found little in common with Yankee liberal religion. Rather I was gripped by tragic stories of willing commitment met by profound disinterest if not roughshod rejection. Yet one thread brings me some joy to find it is part of our inheritance at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UUCC).

Even though 19th century Universalists had a dismal record on race overall, Rev. Quillen Shinn was a significant exception. Shinn was a Universalist missionary and circuit rider from New England who founded a number of churches throughout the Southeast. After Joseph Fletcher Jordan (born a slave, 1863) and his wife Mary Jordan heard Shinn preach at the courthouse in Durham, North Carolina, they approached him and were encouraged to serve Universalism, an allegiance that lasted the rest of their lives. They settled in Suffolk, Virginia, at what became the Suffolk Normal Training School, an institution that survived until 1984. Their initial struggle to find resources, as desperate as it was, would have surely ended in failure if Quillen Shinn had not been a frequent passionate and articulate advocate for their cause.

Quillen Shinn is also forebear to UUCC in direct ways. He helped found the First Universalist Church of Chickamauga, Georgia, in 1897 and visited it regularly. Although it didn't open its doors until after he died in 1907, the First Universalist Church of Chattanooga was also a project he aided and encouraged. His spirit lingered: In 1918 the church was renamed Shinn Memorial Universalist Church and was the last Unitarian or Universalist church to operate in our area until UUCC was organized in 1952.

Milton Keown, who knew Quillen Shinn, and his wife Hattie Keown were part of the Chattanooga Universalist church. Their daughter Violet was our own Buck O'Rear's mother.

Buck in his turn has been UUCC president in three different decades and has received multiple awards for service to our denomination. More about Buck in a future column.

Today in our jubilee year Elaine Hill is the first African-American president of our congregation. When I related one of the stories from Morrison-Reed's book, she immediately got a copy, read it cover to cover, and gave me effusive thanks for leading her to it. I'm moved by her gratitude but it feels like it's supposed to be the other way 'round. She is the exceptional one for being here and I understand now better how precious that is. In twice sixty years a circle is now completed.

All growth is a leap in the dark, a spontaneous unpremeditated act without the benefit of experience.

~ Henry Miller

GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE
by *Sandy Kurtz, Green Sanctuary*

THANK YOU, MATT

Several years ago, an interested group of about 20 folks assembled in the Forum Room one Sunday after the service. The purpose was to learn about the needs for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UUCC) to become an accredited Green Sanctuary. An outline of the requirements was shared. There was much enthusiasm along with, of course, lots of discussion. Finally there was a consensus to move forward. Certainly a committee would have to be formed with the approval and involvement of the whole church. We would need a name for this committee. Several were kicked around. What about Seventh Principle Committee? What about Stewardship or Green Committee? Those names seemed too generic. They made it sound like the committee would be doing all the work when really all the committees and the church as a whole should take responsibility. Nothing seemed quite right until **Matt Hoyt** said, "Initiative is a good word." That was the breakthrough moment. Others chimed in and suddenly it was obvious that we would name this new effort Green Sanctuary Initiative. Shepherded by the Green Sanctuary Initiative, UUCC became an official Green Sanctuary on June 24, 2007 at General Assembly. Matt's thinking outside the box got us started. In a way, part of his legacy lives in the green actions taken since that first meeting.

WOULD-BE CHURCH GARDENERS AND LANDSCAPERS ASSEMBLE

As part of the Green Sanctuary Initiative, a church grounds landscape plan was created that stressed native plants and creation of wildlife-friendly habitat. That is one of the reasons we hold Privet Patrol & Pizza Parties seasonally to get rid of non-native alien species while planting species friendly to wildlife. For example, we have added crabapple, oakleaf hydrangea, wild azalea, and holly as well as woodland and meadow wildflowers while removing countless truckloads of privet, honeysuckle, and euonymous. Still, there is much to do to complete the plan not to mention general maintenance and beautification around our entrance and driveway edges. To that end, **Marge Pasch** is forming a Green Thumb Committee. Some of you have signed up as your 60th Birthday Party gift, but all are welcome to attend the first meeting scheduled for Sunday, February 26 right after the church service. It's up to us to do this work, as we have no paid groundskeepers.

PAGAN NUUS

February

1 - Imbolc
5 - 9:30 am - Pagan Study Group - African Spirituality
7 - 4:54 pm - Full Moon
21 - 5:35 pm - New Moon



Imbolc

Like many Celtic festivals, the Imbolc celebrations centered around the lighting of fires. Fire was perhaps more important for this festival than others as it is the festival of Brigid the Celtic goddess of fire, healing and fertility, who later became revered as a Christian saint. The festival celebrated on February 1 was known as Imbolc or Oimelc, two names which refer to the lactation of the ewes, the flow of milk that heralds the return of the life-giving forces of spring. The lighting of fires celebrated the increasing power of the Sun over the coming months.

Later, the Catholic Church replaced this festival with Candlemas Day on February 2, which is dedicated to the Virgin Mary and features the lighting of candles and candlelight processions to remember her.

WORTH IT
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NUUS
by Kay McCurdy, Director of Religious Education

I read and walked for miles along the beach, writing bad blank verse and searching endlessly for someone wonderful who would step out of the darkness and change my life. It never crossed my mind that that person could be me.

~ Anna Quindlen

I've devoted many of my monthly columns to fishing. Not the worm-on-a-hook in-a-body-of-water sort of fishing, but the sort where I try to entice each of you to make the trip downstairs, and volunteer in our Religious Education department. *Please share your wonderfulness with the kids in our program!* I've pleaded. *They will love you for it!* I've exclaimed. *You have so much to offer!* Then, as further incentive: And remember: *I do all the prep work, the teachers do all the teaching, so you only need to show up and be present!*

The results of my continual beg-beg-begging have been, shall we say, disappointing.

There are, of course, a few exceptions. Linda Helton, Linda Park, Margaret Hudson, and Marge Pasch...four folks who are always eager and willing to spend time downstairs. They are rock stars. And what about Uncle Paul, our resident curmudgeon? He knows every single child downstairs, and they know him. Each Sunday morning, he spends time hanging out with the kids, calling them by name, asking about their interests and daily life. They have a relationship that is based on mutual affection. Uncle Paul is a rock star.

Oh, yes, back to that fishing pole. You'll be happy to hear that for the time being I am done trying to convince the congregation to interact with our UU Kids. I've always held out hope that you'd see what I see: the benefit that comes from having a relationship with our children that goes deeper than smiling at their backs they head off to their classes on Sunday mornings.

Whether you consider yourself a kid person, or not, your presence is important. It sends a clear message to these youngsters as to whether (or not) you believe they have worth. (Wait—haven't I heard something about "respecting the worth" somewhere before???)

Perhaps you feel that children are merely by-products of adults, and have little value beyond the propagation of our species? If you are one of those particular people, all I can say is: Sheesh! But if you are among the other 99.99% who genuinely respect our UU Kids, but haven't yet dipped your toe in the water, I have a final thought on the matter, a discovery I made while wringing my hands:

It is you who need us. Yep, I said it. You need us just as much as we need you. We bring something to the table which is valuable: the future of this religion, and this liberal religious community. For our community to thrive, we need the right mix of old and new ideas. It isn't enough to be merely tolerated, you see. We all want to be seen, heard, and appreciated. Our UU Kids, and our congregation, deserve nothing less.

Guest at Your Table

Our Guest at Your Table program is complete for another year. We collected \$434.80 which has been donated to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Thank you for your support of this program.



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY WAS IMPORTANT TO MATT

by Linda Park, SGM Co-coordinator



Being a member of a Small Group Ministry (SGM) group is an amazing and meaningful experience. Facilitating a SGM group takes that amazing, meaningful experience one step further into awesome territory. At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga, we have a close knit group of SGM facilitators, and Matt Hoyt, who passed away in January, was one of us.

Three years ago, the first year our church sponsored SGM groups, Matt Hoyt signed up for the SGM Men's Group. This group enjoyed each other's company - they shared thoughts and feelings, learned about each other and grew together as UU men. They looked forward to their meetings every month. In fact, they enjoyed getting together so much that when Matt was in the hospital, they took the meeting to him so they could be together. They knew Matt would appreciate their efforts, and he did!

Two years ago, Matt was part of another SGM Group, and this one included both men and women. Again, Matt's thoughtful and caring words endeared him to the members of this group.

This year, Matt stepped up to be a co-facilitator with Mary Hunter of a group that meets during the day. Matt had always enjoyed his SGM groups and had been so supportive, that this year his wife, Betsey, decided it was time for her to sign up for a group and find out what it was all about.

Matt has been an important part of the Small Group Ministry at UUCC, and he will be greatly missed by the people in his groups who grew to love him and by the facilitators with whom he shared his wisdom and wit.

We miss you, Matt.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Kristie McKinley ~ February 6
Karl Hunt ~ February 8
Will Barnhart ~ February 11
David Reed ~ February 11
Walt Jenison ~ February 12
Jill Simpson ~ February 15
Nancy Beel ~ February 17



Lee Solomon ~ February 18
Maurine Olin ~ February 19
Charles Hughes ~ February 22
Lily Joyner ~ February 23
Tim Trussell-Smith ~ February 23
Tim Kleve ~ February 26
Emerson Couch ~ February 28

CHALICE LIGHTING AND YOU



Chalice Lighting is a very important part of our service. It brings light with all its various meanings. It signals the beginning of this wonderful time of worship and fellowship, of being together in spirit. The extinguishing of the flame reminds us to take this spirit out into the world.

We are in the process of including more people in this act of chalice lighting. We want everyone to have the opportunity to feel a part of the service. The added benefit is that we get to put a name with a face. It is difficult to know everyone in the church, and this will help.

There is a sign up sheet on the glass wall in our fellowship area. Please feel free to sign up for a Sunday you would prefer. If a couple or an entire family would like to participate, that would be terrific. Be sure to leave both email and phone number so we can remind you as the date approaches. Thank you for helping in our worship service.

PIONEER AFRICAN AMERICANS IN OUR FAITH
by Elaine Hill, President, Board of Trustees

February is Black History Month, a time to commemorate historical African Americans. Pioneers in our faith include Unitarians, Universalists and Unitarian Universalists. Here are but a few who are part of our history.

Frances Harper, b.1825 and **Peter Clark** b.1829 were Unitarians. Both were abolitionists, writers and lecturers who became acquainted with Unitarians before the Civil War as a result of mutual interests in the abolitionist movement and the Underground Railroad. Harper and Clark were reared in the African Methodist Church (AME). Clark joined a Unitarian Church in Cincinnati in 1868 and Harper joined a Unitarian Church in Philadelphia in 1870. Both Unitarians and the AME claimed them as members.

Joseph Jordan b.1842 was the first African American to be ordained as a minister by the Universalist denomination. He founded a Universalist Church of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1887, and led an ever expanding educational effort for African American children in that area that lasted over ninety years.

Thomas Wise b.1868 tried to expand Jordan's educational outreach but experienced opposition with leaders in the faith. He became a Universalist minister in 1895 but the schools lost financial backing in 1904. Wise gave up his efforts, left the fold and joined the AME Church.

David Hilliard Eaton b.1932 was the first African American to serve as senior minister in a large Unitarian Universalist church. During his tenure, All Souls Church, Unitarian in Washington, DC became a center of community service and social action, and was the first congregation within the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) to achieve a racially balanced black and white membership.

Wade H. McCree, Jr. b.1920 was a judge, educator and United States Solicitor General. In 1965, he became the first African American to be elected to the UUA Board and served as Vice Moderator of the UUA 1965-67.

In 1981, **Yvonne Seon** became the first African American woman to enter Unitarian Universalist Parish Ministry when she was ordained at All Soul's Unitarian Church in Washington, DC. Later, she founded The Capitol Hill Group Ministries, the first "intentionally diverse new start congregation" in the denomination.

William G. Sinkford (b. 1946) became a Unitarian Universalist in his teens. He was elected the seventh president of the UUA in 2001. Sinkford was elected to his second and final term as president in 2005. His installation as president made him the first African American to lead the organization.

Sources: *Darkening the Doorways*, by Mark D. Morrison-Reed

<http://www.uua.org/beliefs/history/6904.shtml>

<http://www25.uua.org/uuhs/duub/listafram.html>

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

At the January meeting of the board of trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga, the following items were discussed.

- Proposed budget for 2012-2013 approved for the Stewardship Campaign. Final budget must be approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting on May 20.
- The Minister's Benevolent Fund was very successful thanks to your generosity.

MUUSIC NUUS
by Kate Briere, Music Director

As promised here are the basic results of the music survey. There were a total of 86 responses. I hope your voice was heard!

Percentages were calculated based on those who chose either a 4 or 5...(smiley face)



Music is important to my worship	90%
enjoy hearing the choir	90%
I enjoy hearing the children sing	84%
I enjoy the Children's Bell Choir	81%
I prefer live to recorded music	88%
I would support fund raising activities	67%
I think hymns should be related to the sermon	49%
I enjoy the hymns we sing	65%
I would like to learn new hymns	62%
I enjoy singing rounds	56%
Rate the quality of our Music program	87%
My musical needs are being met	88%

Favorite Hymns

Our hymn choices are as diverse as our church population—everything from *A Mighty Fortress is our God* to *It Ain't Necessarily So* were suggested as hymn choices. No surprise that the hymn with the most votes was *Spirit of Life* and the next most favorite was *How Can I Keep From Singing...*

Needless to say I am restricted by use of hymns from our hymnal...I have added a few from the new Supplement which is hopefully being purchased for everyone next year. Every time I go outside our hymnal for congregational singing, I need to secure permission from the publisher to copy/print/project those words.

Last I want to remind everyone that I will be staying after church on Sunday March 18 to discuss these results and more of the details and suggestions that emerged. All those interested in the future of the Music Ministry in our church are invited to stay and join the discussion. Please bring your questions and a kind heart!

CALLING ALL RINGERS!



The youth bell choir, Charlotte's Bells, will resume rehearsals February 26 to prepare for a performance on Mother's Day. The choir is open to all children and youth. Wendy Sapp and Tamblin Papendorp are directing this spring. If your child would like to participate or if you would like more information about the choir and its practice schedule, please contact Wendy at 706-694-0940 or wksapp@charter.net.

A HUGE DIAMOND JUBILEE THANK YOU!

For their good suggestions, creativity, assistance, and tireless work in making the celebration of UCC's 60th birthday on January 29 a special day, we say "Thanks" to:

The Steering Committee:

Linda Helton, Chair
Marge Pasch, Gifts Tree, Cleanup Day, Music, and Decorations
Monique Lewis, Program Planning and Readings
Wendes Jones, Communications and Invitations
Linda Park and Daidee Springer, General Arrangements and Potluck

Bulletin Boards and Birthday Wishes Boards: Carol Hobbs and Leslie O'Rear

Diamond Jubilee Logo: Lynne Higgins

Program:

Roger Davis, Master of Ceremonies
Rich Dwyer, Monique Lewis, Jay McCurdy, Nicole Barnhart, Readers

Musicians:

Tamblin Papendorp, Sky Papendorp, Isabel McCurdy, Sophie McCurdy, Will Barnhart, Megan Boshers
Jesse Blue, Christina Bjorling and Catherine Long

Sound Tech: Karl Hunt

Photographer: Lauren Solomon

DVD and Slideshow: Chasity Masters

Potluck Overseer: Charlotte Davis

Setup, Servers, and Cleanup Crew including

Mary Hunter, Bonnie Sinclair, Martha Berry, Pat Mann, Maureen Olin, Leslie Brock, James Joyner, Becca Fowlkes, and Judyth Taylor. George Helton, Steve Hollingsworth, and Ken Beaver assisted as directed.

Power Washers and Total Jacks-of-All-Trades: Paul Adler and Ron Pasch

Cakes: Lee Adler, Marge Pasch, Skip Stevens

Flower Arrangements: Contributed by the Memorial Garden Committee

Delivered later to Claire Hale and Rose Simpson by Caring Committee members

Music: UCC Choir

Poet: Nancy Beel

Invitations Assistants: Diane Reed and Rose Ann Solomon Copeland

Decorating Assistants: Yvonne Derrickson, Sue Knight, Sandy Vanden Braden, Anne Johnson

"Gifts to the Church" Tree Assistants: Susan Kennedy and Margaret Hudson

Nursery Care: Zoe Cantrell

Childcare: Olivia Taylor and Tian-Yu Chang

More VIP's:

Helen Solomon, Sandy Kurtz, Elaine Hill, Nancy Anderson, Kay McCurdy, Maddie Kertay, Jeff Briere, Kate Briere, Wendy Sapp, Dez Papendorp, Chris Tregaskis....and **YOU!**

NOTICE SOME SHINE?

Notice more shine to our church windows? Don't you miss seeing that dust or those cobwebs? How about the Forum Room? Neat shelves and less "seldom-used" stuff in that room! Thank the 30 or so people who pitched in after church on January 15 to spruce up the place for its 60th birthday in our *60 Minutes for 60 Years Clean Up*.

Marge Pasch
Lynne Higgins
Becca Fowlkes
Monique Lewis
Anne Johnson
tom kunesh
Erik Grabowski
Linda Park
Linda Helton
Skip Stevens
Chasity Masters

Amelia Sherman
Phaedra Scarborough
Daidee Springer
Steve Hollingsworth
Maurine Olin
Yvonne Derrickson
Sandy Kurtz
Charles Redwine
Nicky Ozbek
George Helton
Bonny Sinclair

Susan Kennedy
Wendy Sapp
Victoria Henry
Heather Simmons
John Beck
Ken Beaver
Jim Wellborn
Kris Headrick
Frank Caperton

Great apologies if your name was omitted! You were part of a great team and we'll let folks know later who you are (contact Linda Helton, lkwh67@gmail.com).

FORUM ROOM

Thanks to all who helped with the cleanup on January 15. Volunteers are needed to help catalog and organize the book collection, as well as historical documents and artifacts. Please contact Ken Beaver if willing and interested.

CHATTANOOGA INSTITUTE OF NOETIC SCIENCE

February 11, 2012 Meeting
10:30 A.M-noon

This month Kathleen Russell will present *Waking Up to Our Shadow*. Over a century ago, Carl Jung described the projections that we all cast on the people and institutions in our lives. He also defined *The Shadow* from which these projections spring. Kathleen Russell will be reviewing a book by David Richo that helps us learn the steps to dance with our Shadow, thereby potentially expanding our ability to live fuller and richer lives.

Kathleen is a retired mathematics teacher who has spent many years both in and convening meditation groups of various kinds, most recently Centering Prayer. These groups are incubators of the soul in which participants both study texts dedicated to understanding the psyche/soul as well as practice methods designed to walk all that talk! She is excited about the many people who are waking up to "waking up" as a way of living with joy in the midst of our own and others' suffering.

Housing Needed

A male church member has lost his housing. If you have an extra room or know of any affordable housing, please contact Rev. Jeff Briere.

THE TIMES, THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'...

According to many predictions, this is supposedly going to be a big year for change. The Committee on Ministry is part of the change that is going on in our church. This committee is composed of Marcia Parks, Rich Dwyer, and Diane Reed (chair). You may see some changes as we meet monthly with Rev. Jeff to discuss "ministry" in all of its many facets. One of the first changes you will see is the minister's office hours.

Some changes are easy, some are hard. Some happen quickly, some take time. One of my favorite quotes is "Though we may lament it, change is our only lifelong companion, and flexibility our only effective response".

Thanks for working with us as we work on ministry. If you have thoughts on changes that you would like to share with us, please feel free to contact any of the members of the Committee on Ministry. We welcome and look forward to your input.

NEW OFFICE HOURS:

Rev. Jeff Briere will have office hours at the church as follows:

Tuesday 4:00 - 6:00

Wednesday 11:00 - 1:00

Thursday 12:30 - 2:30

As always, he is available by phone outside of those hours.

OFFICE HOURS

by the Rev. Jeff Briere

In their evaluation of me, one of the things the Committee on Ministry suggested I do is to establish office hours. And so I shall.

Beginning the last week in January, my office hours are Tuesday afternoon, from 4 to 6; Wednesday morning, from 11 to 1 and Thursday afternoon from 12:30 to 2:30.

For the first 18 months of my ministry here, I had office hours and people rarely dropped by to talk. I do not need two hands to count the number of people who came to see me. So I quit that practice and established office hours by appointment, which has worked pretty well in the last 5½ years. But, I now begin experimenting with office hours again. I'll have office hours until June, then re-evaluate the idea.

If you'd like to stop by to chat, please do. Can't promise I'll have coffee brewing, but the conversation will be stimulating, I'm sure.



Congratulations to three of our Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga youth who are cast in the Chattanooga Theatre Centre's production of **Seussical Jr.** Please come out and support our young stars by attending a performance in February or early March. Check it out: www.theatrecentre.com

WHO'S PREACHING?



On February 5, **Rev. Andrae McGary** will be our guest preacher. Rev. McGary has experience as a pastor, youth minister, and program director for the non-profit, Hope for the Inner City. In 2009, was elected to the Chattanooga City Council as the 8th District representative, becoming the youngest person ever to hold a local office in Chattanooga. In May 2010, Rev. McGary became the first African-American full-time talk show radio host of "Live and Local" which airs on WGOW 102.3FM. He is currently completing his Doctoral Degree focusing on the sociological integration of religion into society from Oxford Graduate School, located in Dayton, Tennessee. Awards Rev. McGary has received include being named National Association of Social Workers Public Official Award in 2010 and being named to the "20 Under 40" List, Chatter Magazine in 2011. Rev. McGary resides in the Oak Grove Neighborhood with his wife Cheryl and his children Imani, Zion, Elijah, Isaiah, and Eden. They attend Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church.

On February 26, **Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh** will be our guest preacher. Rev. Jafarzadeh has been the minister of the Westside Unitarian Universalist Church since 2007. She lives in Knoxville with her husband, Greg Franseth, their ten year old daughter, five year old son, feisty poodle and aging pit-bull.



WHO'S PLAYING?



On February 5, **Nancy Westmoreland** will provide music for our service. Ms Westmoreland is originally from Guthrie, Oklahoma where she began playing the piano in church at the age of 6. She moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee in 2002. She is currently the Minister of Music for Stanley United Methodist Church and the Mount Moriah Parish Choir. She is married to Phil Westmoreland and has one son, James, and 3 grandchildren.

NEW MEMBERS

Two new members recently joined our church: Jill Simpson (on left) and Becca Fowlkes (on right).

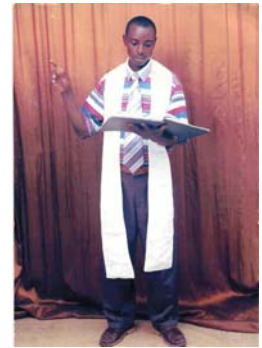
Jill Simpson is a lawyer in Rainsville, Alabama, who lives in Fort Payne. She began attending the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga 19 months ago since it is the closest UU church to her home. In addition to parenting her two children, Jonah age 20 and Jessica age 7, she is currently enrolled in two graduate programs. She is pursuing a MA in Religion and Philosophy with a focus on Women's Spirituality through the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco. She is also enrolled in Community Counseling Program at Argosy in Atlanta. She hopes to continue her education at Starr King Seminary. She says, "I love coming to church and find great comfort in my small group that I am involved with." She has also enjoyed her involvement with the *Rise Up and Call Her Name* class this fall. If you can believe she has time for hobbies on top of all that she does, she also enjoys hiking in the mountains, studying World Religions, and being a Political Activist involved with many social justice projects.



Becca Fowlkes, of Hixson, is a nurse practitioner. She is a talented gardner whose touch can already be seen on our church grounds. You will have to talk with Becca to learn more about her.

SHARE THE PLATE

On Feb 5, we will Share the Plate with the Ruai Unitarian Universalist Church located in the eastern part of Kenya. The Ruai UUC is a liberal religious community committed to individual freedom of belief, the search for truth, spiritual nourishment and the celebration of life. The church members seek to transform their beliefs and mutual caring into action to support their members, strengthen their community and promote social justice. The Ruai UUC minister, Kevin Ragira describes the town as cosmopolitan with people from all Kenyan cultures. The community is experiencing a long-term drought that has killed most of the livestock and caused many human deaths. The Ruai UUC has set up three workshops to generate income for families through a tailoring workshop, carpentry workshop, and poshomill (grinds corn into flour). The tailoring and carpentry workshops have equipment and trained workers but no materials. Our donation will go towards buying supplies so that they can produce goods to support the community.



*Rev. Kevin Ragira,
Ruai UUC, Kenya*

Month	Share the Plate with	Amount Donated
February	Ruai Unitarian Universalist Church	???
January	Walnut Street Bridge Park Foundation	\$287.60
December	Minister's Benevolence Fund	\$1363.00
November	Chattanooga Homeless Coalition	\$315.67
October	Tennesseans for Fair Taxation	\$210.70
September	Walker County Foster and Adoptive Parents Association	\$300.04
August	Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep	\$215.00
July	UUC in Brunswick, Maine	\$640.00
June	Himanchal Education Foundation	\$302.00
May	The Children's Home/Chambliss Shelter	\$331.00
April	Northside Neighborhood House	\$242.23
March	The Mountain	\$755.52
February	Interfaith Homeless Network	\$505.00

SKYSCAPES ON OUR WALLS

The North Georgia Sky Painters Society are exhibiting sky-themed paintings which are new to our walls. The group formed in January of 2010 with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga being the group's first venue. Since then these seven painters have exhibited in several local venues, including the Colonnade in Ringgold, North River Civic Center, and Reflection's Gallery, among others. The artists strive to capture the ephemeral beauty of the sky in all its moods. The members are Sandra Babb, Betty Hamilton, Carol Hobbs, Sherry Hullender, Janice Kennedy, Evelyn Marie Williams, and BJ Wright. Their motto is "The sky is blue...some of the time." For purchase information, please contact Chris in the office.

CHILD CARE POLICY

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all children. We want children and families to feel that there is a supportive place for everyone, regardless of age, within our community. To support this commitment, the Board of Trustees recently approved a child care policy for our church. The policy was developed through extensive discussion with and feedback from church members with and without children. The following explains the key points of the child care policy. If you have any questions about the policy, please contact Wendy Sapp, member of the child care policy committee.

Nursery care: On Sunday mornings, the nursery is open to children from birth to 5 years of age before and during the worship service. To ensure the safety of nursery aged children, older children are allowed in the nursery only at the discretion of the child care providers. A minimum of two adults will provide child care in the nursery.

Older children: On Sunday mornings prior to the worship service, the “youth lounge” is open to children from 5-12 years of age. The “youth lounge” will be monitored by a child care provider. Parents/guardians are responsible for children and teens who are not in the “youth lounge” or in a structured activity, such as choir. Children and teens are NOT required to participate in the “youth lounge” or be with their parents. At the discretion of their parents, children and teens are free to be in any area of the church or church grounds that is open to adults.

Non-Sunday morning events: For church events other than on Sunday morning, child care may or may not be available. When child care is provided, it is available for children of all ages.

Health policy: The childcare staff cannot care for a child with any symptom indicating a contagious illness: sore throat, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, fever, persistent cough and/or runny nose. The childcare staff will ask parents to resume care for their child at any time if they believe a child is not well.

Comforting children: All children will cry at times, and the child care staff will comfort children who are upset. If a child cries for an extended period of time, the staff will get the parent/guardian so the parent/guardian can comfort the child.

YOUTH LOUNGE GUIDE

Pay: \$10 per hour, 1.5 hours per week. Paid every two weeks by church check

Requirements: 18 years or older

High school diploma or GED

Critical requirements: Understand children and their unique needs and wants

Respect children

Experience in childcare appreciated

Back ground check required

The Youth Lounge hosts youth between the ages of 6 and 12 with occasional visits from those in the teen group (13-18). The lounge is open in the Medieval Room downstairs 9:30-11 on Sunday mornings. The Youth Lounge Guide (YLG) will be in charge of providing a safe and inspiring atmosphere for the children who choose to be part of the lounge experience. Duties include setting up games, simple art projects and chat areas so that the children may engage in while being free to visit with each other in a joyful but not rambunctious way. (No throwing, pillow fights etc.)

The YLG will send children upstairs 3-5 minutes before service. The YLG will tidy the room and help the Director of Religious Education (DRE) ready it for that day’s Religious Education classes. The YLG will report to the DRE as their direct supervisor and confer with DRE should there be issues that need to be addressed.

4 WELL-INTENDED COMMENTS THAT SUCK THE LIFE OUT OF PEOPLE

by Lisa Earl McLeod

Are you sabotaging people without realizing it?

We want the people around us to do their best, but sometimes, in our efforts to "help," we wind up making them feel worse. I've watched well-intended bosses, parents and spouses unknowingly crush the very people they want to build up. Sometimes a single ill-timed comment is all it takes to send your confidence crashing to the floor.

Here are 4 of the most common soul-sucking things well-intended people say when they're trying to help:

1. There's a typo on page 3.

Nothing is more demoralizing than putting your heart and soul into a presentation, only to have your boss or teacher read it and the first words out of their mouth are, "There's a typo on page 3."

Before the perfectionists start to sputter, let me be clear. There's nothing wrong with correcting errors. Just don't make it the very first thing you say.

When someone puts their ideas in writing, they've served up a piece of their soul. The last thing you want to do is put a sword through it. If you want to keep people engaged, comment on the content first, then offer suggestions about the mechanics in the context of helping make their great ideas even more polished. Nobody says, "I loved that book, every word was spelled perfectly."

2. Are you wearing THAT?

In our house, we have a rule: Don't comment on someone's outfit unless there's time to fix it. If your fly is down or your lipstick is smudged, we'll tell you. If you want wardrobe advice the night before, we'll sit on the couch for an endless fashion show until you find the perfect thing. But if you're about to walk out in what we think is a less than flattering suit, all we say is, "Go get 'em champ!"

We want every member of our family to walk out the door feeling great. Second-guessing someone's wardrobe at the last minute erodes their confidence at the very moment they need it most.

3. That was great, but . . .

The words you hear right after you finish something are the words you remember the most. If the speech, recital, program, or game was mostly great, tell them gushingly and immediately. If there's a small piece that could be improved next time, wait until you're prepping for next time to bring it up.

4. Don't get your hopes up.

People warn against hope because they don't want you to be hurt. But whenever I hear it, I want to respond: My hopes aren't crushed by failure. My hopes are crushed by you not believing I can succeed.

Keeping your hopes low doesn't insulate you from disappointment. It just keeps you from trying. If someone shares what you think is an overly ambitious plan, the best response is, "If anyone can do it, you can. Tell me more." They might surprise you. They may know exactly how long the odds are. Getting your hopes up isn't risky or unrealistic. Hope gives you the emotional jet fuel to tackle big stuff. People can rebound from failure. But when someone you care about doesn't have confidence in you, it's a lot harder to recover.

Lisa Earle McLeod, a self-described "proud Unitarian Universalist," helps organizations win the hearts and minds of customers and employees. She is an international keynote speaker and consultant who has been seen on The Today show and featured in Forbes, Fortune, CEO Read and The Wall Street Journal. You can reach her at www.LisaEarleMcLeod.com where you can read hundreds of free articles.

POETRY CORNER

This Sky

In the distance
beyond the tall palm
the clouds continue their
slow march across the sky.

One half hour ago
the pain was so great
I wanted, for an instant,
to end my life to make it stop.

But now, I am here -
squatting in front of a row of kale
its ridges and ruffles make the ground more solid
as my dog licks the small of my back,

And I think about how pure my joy was
so long ago, and wonder how to get back there.
But evening is softening around me
and though they say that nobody recovers

from the loss of a child,
I am held for now in the embrace
of the world: this sky, those clouds -
peace from all around.

~ Nancy Beel

SERVICE SCHEDULE

DATE	2/5	2/12	2/19	2/26
TOPIC	In Support of Black History Month	Une Affaire de Cœur	What Do You Want to Be(lieve) When You Grow Up?	Tragedy and Transformation
LEADER	Rev. Andrae McGary	Rev. Jeff Briere	Dr. Les Kertay	Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh
GREETERS AND USHERS	Jim Welborn Sue Welborn Margaret Hudson	Forney McClellan Sue Knight Carol Hobbs	Marge Pasch Elaine Watkins Harold Linn	Leslie Brock Chasity Masters Yvonne Derrickson
BOARD REP	George Helton	Elaine Hill	Wendes Jones	Frank Caperton
MUSIC	Nancy Westmoreland	chattanUUGans	Steve Hollingsworth	Mary Ann Barnhart
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Eric Davis	Rich Dwyer	Karl Hunt	Roger Davis

January 2012

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 2012

March 2012

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 6:30p SGM	2	3	4 12:30p CofG
5 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Pagan Group 9:30a Forum 11:00a Worship 11:15a RE 12:15p Nomintating Comm. (Forum Rm)	6	7 6:30p SGM (Forum Rm) 6:30p Finance Committee	8	9 1:00p SGM	10	11 10:30a CHIONS 12:30p CofG 6:30p Bridge Group
12 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Forum 11:00a Worship 11:15a RE	13	14	15 6:30p SGM	16	17	18 12:30p CofG
19 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Forum 11:00a Worship 12:15p Nomintating Comm. (Forum Rm)	20	21 6:30p Board Meeting 6:30p SGM (Forum Rm)	22	23 1:00p SGM	24 7:00p UU Coffee House	25 12:30p CofG
26 * 9:00a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Forum 9:30a Chalice Circle 10:15a Bell Choir (Reh) 11:00a Worship 11:15a RE	27	28	29			