



THE BEACON

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND

Volume 62, Issue 8

February 4, 2011

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UPCOMING SERVICE INFORMATION

Musical Prelude at 10:45 a.m. Service at 11:00 a.m.*

February 6, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

"Where There is Compassion..."

Worship Leader: Sunshine J. Wolfe, M. Div.

Musician: Deborah Van Kleef

Where there is compassion...there is forgiveness. A child is murdered and her parents remember her by passing a law that would help her killer. A Jewish man asks the German government to apologize for the holocaust. Everyday acts of compassion require great risk. We will share in the everyday miracle that is compassion and forgiveness by looking at stories from many different religious perspectives and experiences.

February 13, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Leadership and Faith

Worship Leader: Terri Burgess Sandu

Musician: Karin Tooley

Whether within our families, religious community, workplace or wherever we congregate, our ability to support and "grow" leaders has become a cornerstone of organizational development and human relationships. We will delve into concepts of leadership and ask if a call to leadership is the same as a call to serve. For both, how does faith help us respond? Terri is the Executive Director of the non-profit organization, Hard Hatted Women.

On Facebook?

If so, check out the Society's Facebook page. A link to it can be found on our website at www.uucleveland.org.

February 20, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Unknown Visions of Love

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen

Musician: Karin Tooley

Historically, the heart of universalism has been the belief that a loving God does not punish her creations with everlasting torment in Hell. Despite our name, Unitarian Universalists cannot lay exclusive claim to theological universalism. What do the other communities where universalism has appeared have to teach us? How might their visions transform our own?

February 27, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

What Does it Mean to be a Unitarian Universalist?

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen

Musicians: UUSC Choir (Barbara Boyd, Director) and Karin Tooley

In February members of the congregation will engage in conversations about what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. In this service, Rev. Bossen will draw upon these conversations to uncover what means to be Unitarian Universalist in our religious community.

March 6, 2011, 11:00 a.m..

Who Do We Serve?

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen

Musician: Karin Tooley

It seems obvious that our congregation serves its members. But who else do we serve? And who else are we accountable to? We'll consider these questions in a service to kick off our annual stewardship campaign.

Notes from our Minister

A little later this month I will travel to Northern California to take part in the CENTER Institute for the Excellence in Ministry. The Institute is a project of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association, the professional organization for Unitarian Universalist ministers. For the past two years I have served on the committee responsible for planning for the Institute. I am excited to see how the actual event unfolds.

The Institute is a major continuing education event for ministers. Some of the best liberal religious minds in the country will be leading seminars on everything from preaching to ethics to sacred song. There will also be powerful worship services and many opportunities for spiritual practice and reflection.

While I am excited about all of these things, the thing I am most excited about is the opportunity to connect with colleagues from across the country. Whenever I have the chance to attend a large Unitarian Universalist gathering I am reminded that our movement extends far beyond our local congregations. Talking with my colleagues I gain a deeper understanding of where our movement is and where we are going.

At the Institute we will be focusing together on the question: What is required for Unitarian Universalism to live into its promise and become a transformative religion for our people and the world? This question does not quite mirror the question that we at the Society are exploring this month but it is close enough that I am sure the discussion at the Institute will impact how I understand our own question.

This is typical. Whenever I engage with the wider Unitarian Universalist world I find things to take back to our congregation, things that influence how I think about our faith tradition and things that have a significant impact on my personal life. I know that is true for many others who participate in the life of our religious association beyond the walls of our own congregation. Every year there are plenty of opportunities to do so. Some important ones are the annual District Assembly of the Ohio Meadville District (March 25-26), the annual General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association (June 22-26) and the Ohio Meadville Summer and Winter Institutes (July 10-16 and February 18-21).

I encourage you to think about attending some of these events. I am confident that you will find your own experience of Unitarian Universalism deepened and discover wonderful things to bring into our shared congregational life.

love,

Colin

Treasurer's Report

In December 2010, the UUSC received \$6,959 in primary pledge contributions plus \$405 in Secondary Stewardship pledge payments. This brings our year-to-date total to \$28,317 towards our annual pledge amount of \$65,594. Collections in December brought in \$219 in non-pledge contributions to the general fund. The Society also brought in \$697 in other income during the month of December.

Karin Tooley
karint@ameritech.net

From Our President

This past month I was pleased to be a facilitator for the Essential Questions program. It was a joy to be able to discuss in a small group "What it means to be a religious community?" It was an hour of insightful and deep conversation that allowed me to connect with members outside of coffee hour and committee meetings. The Essential Questions program continues this month with 4 sessions that will discuss "What it means to be a Unitarian Universalist?" These sessions will be on Saturday, February 12 at 11:00 a.m., Sunday, February 13, immediately following the service, and Thursday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m. Childcare will be provided for the February 17th session.

I am looking forward to hearing more about what we think it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. It is a subject we all think about when asked by those not familiar with our religion but most, I think, like me give a 1-2 minute introduction to UUism and do not think about it beyond that conversation. The Essential Questions conversation will give us an opportunity to dive deeper into this discussion, and hopefully provide a better understanding for ourselves of UUism. These sessions are open to anyone interested in exploring this question, even if you were not able to attend a session last month. Sign-up sheets can be found at the back of the Sanctuary.

On another note I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the following members for their service: Glenn Solomon for volunteering to fill a vacant seat on the Board; Ryan Byrd and Karin Tooley for volunteering to be chairs of the Finance Committee; Ben Faller, Melissa Vandergriff, Pat Solomon, Ryan Byrd, Mike Sullivan and Kathy Weise for facilitating and working on the Essential Questions discussions; and Amy Harmon for volunteering to be on the Stewardship Committee. Thank you for your service.

Have a great February and see you back here in March.

Rachel Webb

Announcement from the Nominating Committee

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland (UUSC) Nominating Committee is searching for new members of the UUSC Board of Trustees. We are asking for your help in identifying potential nominees. The Board is essential to the function of the UUSC. As the Nominating Committee we are looking for members who are dedicated to the congregation and willing to serve. We also try to nominate a slate of candidates (in combination with current Trustees) that reflects the UUSC community.

There are 3 two-year terms and 1 one-year term positions to be filled. Nominees must be members of the UUSC and at least 18 years of age. The congregation will vote on the nominees at the annual meeting in May.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the Board starting in June of 2011 please submit a recommendation form or tell a member of the Nominating Committee. The recommendation forms and submission box are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

The members of the Nominating Committee are Jesse Honsky, Maureen Meslovich, Lois Ruskin, and Elaine Weaver. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the UUSC Board please contact Jesse Honsky at 440-488-8273 or jkhonsky@gmail.com.

UUSC News/Announcements

Rev. Bossen Out of Office until February 12: Rev. Bossen will be in northern California Feb. 5-12.

Membership Coordinator Position Filled: The position of Membership Coordinator has been filled by Zelda J. MacGregor, a highly motivated and creative individual with an extensive background in networking, media relations, communications and social media. She has spent several years developing communication strategies for a variety of causes including political candidate and issue campaigns, small businesses, and individuals. Please join us in welcoming Zelda!

Lois Ruskin at Menorah Park: UUSC member, Lois Ruskin, is recuperating after a fall and can be contacted at Menorah Park in Beachwood, OH.

First Sunday Potluck—Sunday, February 6: We will be having a First Sunday Potluck after service on Feb. 6 downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$3 if you don't bring a dish or \$5 per family. First time guests are free.

Men's Super Bowl Party—Sunday, February 6: The Men's Annual Super Bowl party will be held at Ryan Sullivan's pad in Shaker Heights at 13800 Fairhill Road, Unit 314. The festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. with game time approximately 6:25 p.m. For details contact Ryan at 216-791-7845.

Meetings for "What Does It Mean to be Unitarian Universalist?": Conversations on the question "What Does It Mean to be a Unitarian Universalist?" are scheduled for Saturday, 2/12 at 11:00 a.m.; Sunday, 2/13 after service; and Thursday, 2/17 at 7:00 p.m. Please sign-up on the sheets at the back of the Sanctuary or contact the office.

Next Circle Supper—Saturday, February 12: The next Circle Supper is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 12. If you have any questions or want to sign up for supper, contact Ken Nightingale at 216-470-7643 or father.nature@sbcglobal.net.

Young Adult Discussion Series—Tuesday, February 15: The next Young Adult Discussion Series at Algebra Tea House in Little Italy will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 15th. The next meeting topic is "What Do We Mean by God?" Contact Rev. Bossen at minister@uucleveland.org for more info.

Spirit Song Circle / Awakening Your Heart—Discontinued: Rev. Mary Grigolia has discontinued the Spirit Song Circle sessions at the Society originally scheduled for third Wednesday's, February thru May 2011. For information regarding optional sessions, email: mary@marygrigolia.com.

Possibilitarian Puppet Theater Event—February 25 & 26: "The Garbage Insurrection Circus and Angel of History Passion Play" will be at the Pilgrim United Church of Christ located at 2592 W. 14th Street in Tremont. Show starts at 8:00 p.m. Contact diana_sette@yahoo.com or 216-932-5609.

Movie Night—February 27: The next movie night is Sunday, Feb. 27, at 5 pm in the UU Society library. The Feb. movie will be "Got Healthcare Yet?", which is an independent film about the current state of the US healthcare system. In it, many voices are heard. This should provide a good springboard for discussion. Bring a brown-bag supper.

Reading to Refugees—Tuesday, March 1: We will be going to Green Road to read to the Bhutanese refugees at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1. If you would like to help, please contact Claire Brugnoletti at clairebrugnoletti@comcast.net or Rev. Bossen at minister@uucleveland.org.

This Is Your Brain on Meditation—Wednesday, March 2: This is a continuation of a six series session. The March 2 topic will be "Awakening the Brain". Fee: Dana (pay what you choose). Session starts at 7 p.m. and is facilitated by Rev. Mary Grigolia. For more information call 216-539-3784, or email: mary@marygrigolia.com.

Stewardship Committee Looking for Two New Members: If you are interested, contact Wes Senseman (wessenseman@sbcglobal.net) or Nina McLellan (NinaMac15@sbcglobal.net).

UUSC Nominating Committee Looking for Board Candidates: The UUSC Nominating Committee is looking for candidates for the UUSC Board of Trustees. We are asking for your help in identifying potential nominees. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the Board starting in June of 2011 please submit a recommendation form or tell a member of the Nominating Committee. The recommendation forms and submission box are on the table at the back of the sanctuary. The members of the Nominating Committee are Jesse Honsky, Maureen Meslovich, Lois Ruskin, and Elaine Weaver. Please contact Jesse Honsky at 440-488-8273 or jkhonsky@gmail.com.

Roommate Wanted to Share Apartment in Tremont: For more information contact Amy Harmon at amyaharmon@gmail.com.

Air Purifier for Sale: Chris Horvath, is selling an air purifier with a HAPA filter. The price is open to offers. If interested, contact Chris at 216-321-6609.

Accessible Summer Institute

The Ohio-Meadville District of UU congregations sponsors an annual Summer Institute at Kenyon College, which will be held July 10-16 this year. Briefly, this is a time and place where UU's gather to create a world of our own. There are families of many shapes, sizes and colors, all learning, worshiping, playing and eating together. There are workshops on topics from the Bible to humanism to environment to duct tape.

The keynote speaker for the week this year is John Buehrens. He has been the president of the UUA, and co-authored the book "A Chosen Faith", which is a very popular introduction to UU-ism.

So why did I title this article "Accessible.."? First, because I would like to point out that Summer Institute is an event for anyone. Just because you've never attended before is no reason not to consider going. Quite a few of us from the UU Society do attend, and it is easy to make new friends – or to find quiet solitude. Secondly, it is actually affordable as far as vacations go, since food and lodging are included in the price. Also, there are several forms of financial assistance. Thirdly, there are a variety of accommodations available for physical limitations, such as golf carts for getting around the campus.

The final accessibility note, though, is for those who cannot attend. There will be CD's available of the theme talks. In preparation for SI, Joel Slater from the Kent UU Church is forming an online book discussion of a book which John Buehrens recently coauthored with Rebecca Parker (also awesome!). The book is "A House for Hope". Joel emailed those who have attended SI in the past, but is not limiting participation. Anyone who is interested in this book discussion can contact him at jtslater@me.com. The first discussion will be Feb. 14.

I enjoy attending Summer Institute. I enjoy reading great books. I enjoy sharing. And I'd enjoy answering any questions.

Mary Schatzman ~ maryschatzman@sbcglobal.net

RE-VIEW

Caldecott Book Drive huge success!

Over the last few months the RE committee (led by Linda Coulter) has asked you, the congregation, to help us better the RE program by donating a Caldecott winning book and you've answered. Our goal was to collect each Caldecott winning book from the last twenty five years and have gotten nearly all of them! The purpose of the drive was to improve both the quality and quantity of the books in the RE program's children's library and we've certainly done it. At last count we've got commitments for all but two of the books. If you'd still like to get involved with the book drive it's not too late, just contact Director of Religious Education Nathan Staples and let him know you'd like to help to find out more information.

Teaching in September

Yes, we know that there's still over half a year until September and we know that you haven't even made summer plans yet much less started thinking about what you're going to do in the fall but we want you to start thinking. Every year we need around twenty volunteers who to take on varying degrees of responsibility to make sure that the RE program runs smoothly. In the coming months we'll give you more information about how teaching only takes one or two hours a week, how it can be personally and spiritually fulfilling and how you don't have to choose between teaching and congregational life but that comes later. For now all we ask is that you think about volunteering in September and ask any questions you may have to the RE committee, current teachers, the DRE or even children currently in the program.

Nathan Staples ~ dre@uucleveland.org

The Ohio Industrial Areas Foundation

The Ohio IAF (Industrial Areas Foundation) has formed a new organization called the Greater Cleveland Congregation (GCC). We are part of a county wide effort to involve the citizens of Cuyahoga County in solving the region's most pressing problems. A core group from the congregation has been taking training for relational conversations and for facilitating small group meetings and asking: "What one issue, if addressed, can make a significant change for the better in Cuyahoga County?"

The GCC is scheduling UUSC meetings as follows:

1. A coffee hour in three groups of ten people on Sunday, February 27th, immediately following service.
2. On Monday evening, February 28th, at 7-8:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Schatzman.
3. On Saturday afternoon, March 5th, at 2-3:00 p.m. at the home of Nina McLellan.

We hope to generate at these meetings a number of issues about which the Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland is concerned and perhaps identify some potential solutions and people willing to tackle these issues. Please sign up for the meeting of your choice on the sheets in the back of the Sanctuary.

Wendy Wills

Board Minutes

If you would like to receive the minutes from Board Meetings via email, please contact the Society's Office. Alternatively, the minutes from the previous month's Board Meeting are posted on the Bulletin Board in the Social Hall.

Sunshine J. Wolfe, M. Div.

UUSC Speaker at 11:00 a.m. Service on February 6

Bio: Sunshine Jeremiah Wolfe was the Intern and Summer Minister from 2009-2010 at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Rocky River, OH. Ghe is currently living in Indiana with gher family, guest preaching throughout the region, and serves as a chaplain at IU Health University Hospital and Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. Ghe is a graduate from Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA. Sunshine is genderqueer and asks that you use the non-gender pronouns "ghe" and "gher" in reference to gherself. The "gh" is pronounced like the "g" in beige.

Wine Country Excursions

This is the sixth year that the little UU Fellowship in Napa, CA has depended upon the kindness of strangers to move closer to their goal of moving from rented space to a home of their own. They are doing this by conducting "Wine Country Excursions," inviting UUs from across the nation to stay in their homes and tour the Napa Valley, tasting wines, enjoying beautiful scenery, art and history. The proceeds from this enterprise go to the building fund. There are two choices: Both start with comfortable lodging in members' homes with full breakfast (up to 3 nights). You can choose a 2-day "Wine Country Excursion," a guided, personalized tour conducted by one of their members—some with wine industry experience—or lodging and self-guided tour. UU ministers will be personally guided by minister, Rev. Bonnie Dlott. Fees are below market rate. For complete details contact Tom Wilson (707-254-7443) or 2wilsons1dog@comcast.net.

February 2011

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|---|-----|--|
| | | 1 Reading to Refugees 7 pm | 2 This is Your Brain on Meditation 7-8:30 pm | 3 Shifting Gears 1:30 pm Joseph Campbell RT 7:30 pm | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Choir 9:30 1st Sunday Potluck 1 pm Men's Annual Super Bowl Party 5:30 pm | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Essential Questions 11 am Circle Suppers (in home) 6:30 p.m. |
| 13 Choir 9:30 Essential Questions 12:15 pm GBLT Disc. group 1 pm | 14 | 15 Young Adult Disc. Group Algebra Tea House 7:30 pm | 16 | 17 Essential Questions 7 pm | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Choir 9:30 am | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Board of Trustees Mtg. 7 pm | 25 | 26 |
| 27 <i>Beacon Deadline</i> GCC/IAF Mtg. 12:30 pm Stand Up Com. 1 pm Movie Night 5 pm | 28 GCC/IAF Mtg. 7 pm at M. Schatzman | 1 Reading to Refugees 7 pm | 2 This is Your Brain on Meditation 7-8:30 p.m. | 3 | 4 | 5 GCC/IAF Mtg. 2 pm at N. McLellan |
| | | | | | | |

**THE UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY
OF CLEVELAND**

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Rev. Colin Bossen
Minister

Tues. 9:00 - 11:15 a.m., Wed. 9:00. - 3:15 p.m.,
Thurs. 9:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Shirley Nelson
Administrator/Beacon Editor
Tues. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Wed. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.,
Thurs. 9:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Amy Collins
Commissioned Lay Leader

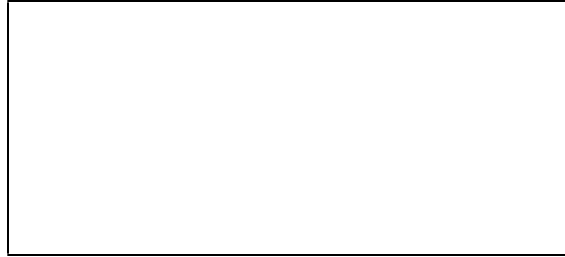
Nathan Staples
Director of Religious Education
Thurs. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and
Sun. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Zelda MacGregor
Membership Coordinator

William Shorter
Custodian

Barbara Boyd
Choir Director

Rev. Peggy C. Clason
Minister Emerita



UUSC DEADLINES:

Beacon Articles: Deadline for March is February 27th.

Order of Service/Announcements:

Wednesday a.m. before the Sunday Service

Board Reports: Tuesday a.m. before the Board Meeting

Birthdays and Anniversaries

This is only a partial list, to make it complete, send your special dates to the Office at office@uucleveland.org or just call and leave a message on the machine. Thanks!!

February

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Barbara Boyd | 14 |
| Dylan Forrest | 19 |



UUSC Board of Trustees

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Rachel Webb | President |
| Mary Schatzman | Vice President |
| Beverly Austin | Secretary |
| Karin Tooley | Treasurer |
| Ben Faller | |
| Glenn Solomon | |
| Sarah Thuerk | |
| Elaine Weaver | |

*Board Meetings are held on the
4th Thursday of the month at
7:00 p.m.*