



THE BEACON

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND

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UPCOMING SERVICE INFORMATION

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

April 10, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

What Does it Mean to be a Member of this Unitarian Universalist Religious Community?

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen

Musician: Karin Tooley

In March members of the congregation engaged in conversations about what it means to be a member of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland. In this service, Rev. Bossen will draw upon these conversations to uncover the meaning of membership in our congregation.

April 17, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Islam and Terror

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen

Musician: Karin Tooley

It is popular in some parts of the media to describe Islam as a violent religion that fuels terrorism. How accurate is that portrayal? Is Islam more violent than other religions? Is there any truth behind the notion that the War on Terror is part of a larger clash between civilizations?

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.

Wheelchair Available

The Society has a wheelchair available for use during congregational events.

April 24, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday: Prophet, Not Messiah!

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen

Musician: Karin Tooley

It is a traditional Unitarian belief that Jesus was a human being, not part of the divine Trinity. This year for Easter, and for our final service in our series on Islam, we will focus on Islamic views of Jesus and how understanding him to be a human prophet and not a divine Messiah can provide us with great inspiration and challenge in our spiritual lives.

May 1, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Optimism Isn't a 4-Letter Word!

Worship Leader: Amy Collins, CLL

Musician: Karin Tooley

It is possible to be both a realist and an optimist. It is possible to be both angry, or discouraged, or disappointed, and still create possibility and positive outcomes. The greatest difficulty is in overcoming resignation and apathy: our own and that of others we encounter. How do we resist this quagmire?

May 8, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Music Sunday

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen

Musicians: UUSC Choir, Barbara Boyd, Director, Karin Tooley and Friends

On Mothers Day we will celebrate our congregations many musical talents with a special concert by the UUSC Choir and music from members and friends.

Notes from our Minister

This month I will be preaching the final sermon in our series on questions essential to our life together as a religious community. The sermon will be on what it means to be a member of this Unitarian Universalist religious community. In reading through the notes from the congregational conversations in the lead up to my sermon I have been struck by how much our congregation has changed over time and how much it continues to change. I have also been struck by how through out all of the changes it has experienced the congregation has maintained a constant core.

It will be important to live with the tension between the changes the Society has experienced and is experiencing and our constant core over the next few months as we prepare to vote on a new Long Range Plan and examine our congregational covenant (which we call our Bond of Union). The tension can fuel creative energy. It can also fuel unhealthy conflict. Which we experience will largely depend upon the attitudes we hold around change and how we treat each other during times of transition.

This is religious work. In life we are always living with changes. Change happens all of the time. We live through the turning of the seasons, the birth of children, the death of loved ones, transitions in our careers and, yes, even shifts in our religious communities. It is a challenge to adjust and adapt to these changes. It is also an opportunity for personal, and in some cases collective growth. When we accept that we are living in the midst of changes we have the opportunity to change for the better.

It is my hope for all of you that in these next months as we collectively wrestle with the changing and constant nature of our religious community that you take the change we experience as an opportunity for growth. I know that I certainly will. And in doing so I know that I will grow.

love,

Colin

PS: On a somewhat unrelated note, I have been invited to be a blogger on the Huffington Post. Starting sometime in April I should have an article, or so, a month on-line at <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rev-colin-bossen>.

Treasurers Report

January's pledge contributions of \$5,830 bring our year-to-date total to \$40,120, representing 61% of the UUSC's annual pledge amount of \$65,594. This represents a growing lag compared with last month's progress. Collections in February brought in \$157 in non-pledge contributions to the general fund. The Society also brought in \$183 in other income during the month of February.

Karin Tooley
karint@ameritech.net

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.

From Our President

Let me start by saying thanks to everyone who has submitted a stewardship card and made their pledge to the Society for our next year. We still have several Members that have not yet turned in stewardship cards. If you have not already, please help us meet our goal of 100% Member card submittals by April 15 and help us towards our \$100,000 goal. The stewardship campaign and Member giving is an important part of our community. Without giving it is hard for our community to continue to provide the services and community we have grown to love and enjoy.

As we move through April and May you will be seeing more and more on our Long-Range Plan, 2011/12 budget, and the Annual Congregational Meeting. Our Members have been hard at work helping us grow and implement our mission. The Long-Range Planning Committee has been working for the past 2 years on a 5-year plan. They have been gathering information from us on where we see our community going in the next 5 years and are compiling all of this information into several plans that will be presented in the May edition of the Beacon and at an information meeting May 8th after service. We will then vote on a plan at the Annual Congregational Meeting on May 22nd.

Rachel Webb

Long Range Planning Committee

Greetings from the Long-Range Planning Committee! We're getting very close to finishing the UUSC's Long Range Plan, and will be putting it up for a vote at the Annual Meeting on May 22nd. But first, we want to share our finished product with you! We've spent several years gathering massive amounts of data, getting congregational/ministerial/board input, working with a consultant, and meeting monthly to get a long-range plan that reflects the wishes of the entire congregation. On Sunday, May 8th, from 12:30-2:00, we will hold a meeting at the Society to explain the plan, explain how we will vote on the plan, and answer any questions you may have about the plan and the process that went into forming it. We hope that a full and robust explanation of the plan, coupled with a chance to answer questions, will allow us to avoid spending hours during an already long Annual Meeting explaining what we're voting on.

I hope you can attend this important meeting about the future direction of the UUSC. In addition, please keep an eye out for an e-mail with the plan attached, so you can read through it before the meeting if you like. Please also feel free to ask me any questions. Thank you!

Ben Miladin

A Word from the Vice President

I had an idea I would like to propose, that could be fun and useful, too. Each year, at the end of summer, we have a water service, during which we bring real or virtual water from someplace we've been that is or was meaningful for us. So this summer, especially if you travel to someplace interesting and don't have to go through airport screening, do remember to collect some. But beyond that, if you travel over the summer, and are someplace on a Sunday morning, find a UU congregation to attend. Absorb impressions about their uniqueness, and how they welcome you. Then either take a picture or pick up their brochure and bring it back to put on the table along with water on the Sunday we return in September. It might be good to call them beforehand, since some UU groups suspend services or alter their time during the summer. Consider it a sort of treasure hunt.

Mary Schatzman

UUSC News/Announcements

Appeals for Our Members in Need: Lois Ruskin is home now and she is working to improve her mobility. Perhaps you can help? If so, contact Lois directly at 216-543-0120. Valerie McFadden broke her ankle and has had surgery and is recovering at home. She will be in a wheelchair during this time and is looking for a shower chair to use during her recovery. Both members can use some ongoing support from you by sending cards, visiting, and offering your loving hands to help with meals, a game night or day, and some housekeeping. A care calendar is being set up to schedule continuous encouragement and support. To offer your help, contact Jeri Rask at 216-321-8006.

Annual HRRC/Bremec Spring Fundraiser: The annual spring fundraiser for the Home Repair Resource Center at Bremec on the Heights begins in one month. Shop and learn by attending free workshops on April 23, 24, 30 and May 1. Flyers are on the information table in the back of the Sanctuary. Call 216-932-0039 for reservations and visit www.hrhc-ch.org for more details.

Next Circle Supper—April 9: Come to our Circle Suppers and get to know other members of our congregation which are generally held on the second Saturday of each month! These are semi-potlucks held at various Hosts' houses in the area. Sign-up sheets are available at Sunday services. Contact Ken Nightingale at father.nature@sbcglobal.net or call 216-470-7643.

Young Adult Discussion Series—Tuesday, April 12: The next Young Adult Discussion Series at Algebra Tea House in Little Italy will be held at 7:30 p.m. on April 12. The meeting topic is "Islam". Contact Rev. Bossen at minister@uucleveland.org for information.

Save Our Communities—April 15 & 16: Books Not Bombs, Jobs Not Jails, Families Not Foreclosures! April 15—Friday night parade, rally and evening of music, musings and mayhem—Public Square / Old Stone Church. April 16—Saturday Community Forum—Trinity Cathedral. For details and registration go to <http://www.peaceactioncleveland.org/april15>.

EarthFest - April 17: Cleveland, Ohio-Earth Day Coalition will present their 22nd annual EarthFest celebration and Walk or Bike for the Earth on Sunday, April 17th at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo from 10 a.m.—5 p.m. As a supporter of the Sustainable Cleveland 2019 initiative, the theme will focus on this year's celebration of "Energy Efficiency" as it relates to Climate Change Solutions. For more information go to www.earthdaycoalition.org or call 216-281-6468.

First Sunday Potluck—May 1: We will be having a First Sunday Potluck after service on May 1st downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. If you don't bring a dish, the cost is \$3 per person or \$5 per family. First time guests are free.

Reading to Refugees—May 4: We will be going to Green Road to read to the Bhutanese refugees at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4. If you would like to help, please contact Claire Brugnoletti at clairebrugnoletti@comcast.net or Rev. Bossen at minister@uucleveland.org.

Video Taping—May 15: Rev. Bossen is currently working with a speech coach to improve his preaching. As a result, the May 15th services will be videotaped. The videotape will not be distributed.

Lobby Day for Equality 2011—May 18: Sign-up to join Equality Ohio and gather together with other supporters on Wednesday, May 18 in Columbus, OH. You will be assigned a Lobby Day team to help you prepare and you will get important information to make sure you are comfortable and ready to talk to your elected officials. This is one of the most power-filled days for Ohioans who want equal rights for LGBT people and families. Visit the website at info@equalityohio.org.

Love is an Orientation—May 18: A one day conference designed to raise awareness of issues in the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning community, and as a means of building bridges between the LGBT and Faith and Education communities. Andrew Marin, author of the book "Love is an Orientation" will be speaking. Conference starts at 10 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland. For more information visit www.firstbaptistcleveland.org.

Darrell Cook's Furniture and Clothing: Deceased member, Darrell Cook, has furniture and clothing that his family wants to donate to UUSC members. For more information contact Darrell's niece, Kelly Stark, at kellystark1243@yahoo.com and she will provide a description of the antique furniture, refrigerator and stove and make arrangements for you to see it. Kelly will only be in Cleveland on Saturday, April 16th, so if the items are wanted arrangements will need to be made prior to that as any remaining items will be donated to the salvation army.

RE-VIEW

Nursery Volunteers Needed

If you've been looking for an easy way to get involved at the Society volunteering in our Nursery could be just the thing for you. We need adult volunteers who have been attending the Society for over six months to sign up to work with our babies and toddlers once every 4-6 weeks. You don't need any special skills and you don't need to have experience working with young children. Volunteers will work with our Nursery professional, Sladja, as a second adult and can turn to her with any questions they may have. Less than once a month, getting to play with young children... what's not to like here? Thanks for your consideration, for more information please call our DRE, Nathan Staples, or contact him by email at dre@uucleveland.org.

Youth Service

Did you attend the youth service and like what you saw? Then tell a youth what you thought! While the youth did have some direction from their advisors, the minister and worship associates, they were the ones who planned and implemented the service. Our youth are all very friendly and they'd love to hear what you have to say!

Bringing in New Families

Some of you may remember our program last year of asking you, the congregation, for your help in finding new families. All we ask is for the name and address of a family you know who you think would fit in well at the Society. Families will receive a single letter from the Society RE committee and from there can decide if they want to participate or not. We don't want to bother your friends and neighbors but if we're going to grow we need to let people know we're here. Growing a healthy, vibrant RE program is vital to long term growth and we need your help to do it! Thanks in advance for your help.

Nathan Staples
dre@uucleveland.org

HEIGHTS EMERGENCY FOOD CENTER

As the home of The Heights Emergency Food Center, Disciples Christian Church wants to extend a special invitation to you. On Sunday, May 1st, from 6:00—9:00 p.m., they are holding a benefit for the Hunger Center.

As you may know, the Hunger Center was opened in October of 1981 with the aid of the Heights Interfaith Council. The Hunger Center serves residents of Cleveland Heights, University Heights, South Euclid, and Lyndhurst. Approximately 1,000 people are provided with a three-day supply of food once a month.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Heights Emergency Food Center.

Amy Campbell
amy@discipleschristian.org

"URBAN NOTES" BENEFIT • MAY 7 AT 7 PM

The "Urban Notes" evening of music featuring favorite UU and local performers will take place at First Unitarian Church of Cleveland in Shaker Heights. If you sing or play an instrument and want to be part of the concert, contact Doris Matthey at dmatthey@sbcglobal.net. For advance tickets contact Anne Osborne at 440-617-9000 or osborne815@yahoo.com. Tickets are \$10 advance, \$12 at the door, \$5 child, and \$25 family maximum.

IAF Issues Convention • April 7

The Greater Cleveland Congregations Issues Convention will be held on Thursday, April 7, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Park Synagogue Main (3300 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights). It will take place in Kangesser Hall. Please enter the campus from Mayfield Road and pull into the Lower Parking Lot. From there you can walk up the driveway to the main entrance of Kangesser Hall. For those who are mobility-impaired, it is possible to drive up to the main entrance of Kangesser Hall for a drop-off. Please plan to arrive at 6:45 p.m. so that you have plenty of time to navigate these logistics.

A pre-event meeting for high school students will begin at 6 p.m. in "The Bridge" adjacent to Kangesser Hall. At the end of the Issues Convention, each congregation to caucus will be asked to come up with a commitment for the number of people you will bring to the GCC founding assembly on June 6 (location TBD). Please come prepared to discuss that number with your team.

Ari Lipman
Industrial Areas Foundation
614-557-5650

Membership Coordinator

ADOPT A SUNDAY!

First of all, I want to say thank you to ALL of you for being incredibly kind and welcoming since I joined you in January. It has been a real pleasure to get to know you as a congregation and as individuals, and I look forward to continuing to learn more about you and help UUSC grow and become an even more vibrant and wonderful group of people than it already is.

I'm kicking off a new campaign for our Sunday Service volunteers. We need help with Welcoming Teams *every week*. A great way to make sure these positions are filled on a weekly basis is to have everyone pick a Sunday every month they can help out. Let's say you know you will be able to come in the third Sunday of every month and greet people - why not just schedule it ahead of time? You'll always know that on that Sunday you need to arrive a little early! This is a simple thing we can all do to help make sure we are giving the best first impression to newcomers.

I will be passing around a signup sheet with a calendar this Sunday. You can also sign up by emailing me at zeldamacgregor@gmail.com or membership@uucleveland.org, on our Facebook page, or by calling 216.640.6180. Please feel free to contact me any time with questions or ideas!

Zelda ~ Membership Coordinator

Spring in the Smokies • April 1 thru May 1

Discover the Smokies Spring Wildflower Adventure! Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church invites you to come to Knoxville for a couple of days to enjoy spring wildflowers and festivals in and around the Smokies while you stay with UU bed and breakfast hosts anytime between April 1 and May 1, 2011. Costs are \$40 single, \$70 couple per night. For details and registration, visit www.tvucc.org.

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
* Note: Choir Rehearsal every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.					1	2
3 IAF Cong. Discussion 12:30 pm 1st Sunday Potluck 1 pm	4	5 Reading to Refugees 7 pm	6	7 Shifting Gears 1:30 pm IAF Issues 7 pm Joseph Campbell RT 7:30 pm	8	9 Circle Supper 6:30 p.m.
10 GLBT Discussion Group 1 pm	11	12 Young Adult Discussion Series at Algebra Tea House 7:30 pm	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 <i>Beacon</i> <i>Deadline</i> Easter Sunday Stand Up Comedy 1 pm Movie Night 5 pm	25	26	27	28 Board of Trustees Mtg. 7 pm	29	30

**THE UNITARIAN
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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

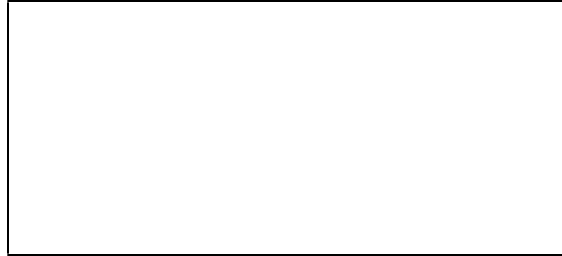
Nathan Staples
Director of Religious Education
Thurs. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and
Sun. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Zelda MacGregor
Membership Coordinator
Thurs. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

William Shorter
Custodian

Barbara Boyd
Choir Director

Rev. Peggy C. Clason
Minister Emerita



UUSC DEADLINES:

Beacon Articles: Deadline for May is April 24th..
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!!

April

Maureen Meslovich	2
Peggy Clason	3
Louisa Horvath	15
Don Clason	23



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.*