



# THE BEACON

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND

Volume 62, Issue 7

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## UPCOMING SERVICE INFORMATION

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

*January 2, 2011, 11:00 a.m.*

### **The Price for Peace: Economic Justice**

*Worship Leader: John Martin  
Musician: Karin Tooley*

Economic justice is the key to achieving any degree of peace among nations, groups or individuals. Someone once said that the function of religion is to "keep the poor from murdering the rich." In like manner, the various "isms" like racism, sexism, ageism, serve to keep us distracted from the fact that all of them keep those at the bottom of the economic pyramid fighting among themselves. This must stop if there is to ever be any semblance of a "blessed community."

*January 9, 2011, 11:00 a.m.*

### **Te Tremble**

*Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen  
Musician: Karin Tooley*

A year after the earthquake Haiti remains troubled by cholera, underdevelopment, violence and political and economic stability. This service will look at the spiritual, moral and religious roots of the ongoing crisis in Haiti.

### **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](http://www.uucleveland.org).

### **Wheelchair Available**

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

*January 16, 2011, 11:00 a.m.*

### **A House of Hope?**

*Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen  
Musician: Karin Tooley  
Guest Artists: Rafiki (Liturgical Dance)*

Martin Luther King, Jr. preached a message of hope. He dreamed of a new society in which divisions between races and economic classes were overcome. How does Dr. King's dream fare today? What role can Unitarian Universalists play in bringing it to fruition? How might our congregation become a house for hope?

*January 23, 2011, 11:00 a.m.*

### **The Fire of Commitment**

*Worship Leader: Rev. David McFarland and  
Rev. Colin Bossen  
Musicians: UUSC Choir (Barbara Boyd, Director)  
and Karin Tooley*

What fires you up? Guest minister Rev. David McFarland, minister of Allegheny UU Church, our inner city church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, explores some of the sources of our passion for creating a just world.

*January 30, 2011, 11:00 a.m.*

### **What Does It Mean to be a Religious Community?**

*Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen  
Musician: Karin Tooley*

Over the next several months our congregation will be engaged in a process of re-writing our covenant. As part of that process members of the congregation are encouraged to participate in a series of conversations around questions essential to our religious life together. This sermon will draw upon the first of those conversations and seek to uncover what it means for us to be a religious community.

## Notes from our Minister

2011 promises to be an exciting year for our congregation. In September we will celebrate our 60th anniversary. As part of the anniversary celebrations the Rev. Dennis Kuby will be preaching during our annual Society Sunday service. The Rev. Kuby was minister of the Society in the mid-60s. During his tenure the Society was known for its participation in the civil rights movement and dedication to inner city Cleveland. This will be the Rev. Kuby's first appearance in our pulpit in many years. I am excited to welcome him back to our community.

The Board and I are currently looking for volunteers to help plan other anniversary events. So, if you are interested in helping to plan a party or have other ideas on how we can celebrate please let me know.

Our 60th anniversary isn't the only big thing we have planned for the coming year. In the spring we will be voting on a new long range plan. The Long Range Planning committee has been working on one diligently for the last year. In the next few months they should be ready to share it with the congregation. I am hopeful it will contain some bold visions for the future of our beloved community.

In addition to the long range plan, we will also be voting on a new congregational covenant in the spring. Our current covenant is 59 years old and it no longer reflects us. Throughout the spring we will holding a series of conversations on questions essential to our life together as a religious community. These conversations will help me frame sermons on the same questions. Hopefully these in turn will help us, as a community, gain a bit of clarity on our common values. Together the sermons and conversations will create a framework that will allow the Committee on Ministry to write a draft of a new covenant for our congregation to discuss, revise and vote upon.

I hope that you will be able to participate in these conversations. The first set are on the question: What does it mean to be a religious community? Sessions will be held on Sunday January 9th after the service, Saturday January 15th at 11:00 a.m. and Wednesday January 19th at 7:00 p.m. I hope that you will be able to participate in one. For Unitarian Universalists, covenants are the root of our religious life together. They reflect not what we believe but how we agree to live together in religious community. Our new covenant will only reflect the values of our community if we all participate in the process of creating it.

With our 60th anniversary, a new long range plan and a new covenant 2011 should be an interesting and potentially transformative year for our congregation. I look forward to sharing it with you.

love,

Colin

## Treasurer's Report

In November 2010, the UUSC received \$5,771 in primary pledge contributions plus \$254 in Secondary Stewardship pledge payments. This brings our year-to-date total to \$21,358 towards our annual pledge amount of \$65,594. Collections in November brought in \$225 in non-pledge contributions to the general fund. The Society also brought in \$1,487 in other income, mostly from the auction fundraiser, during the month of November.

Karin Tooley  
karint@ameritech.net

## From Our President

Welcome to the New Year. While it is always good to reflect on the past year, there is much to look forward to for 2011. We should be experiencing our new energy efficient furnace for our January 2<sup>nd</sup> service. The Board decided to move forward with the installation because of the cost to run our old furnace, and it was old enough that it had become unserviceable. That furnace served the Society well, mainly because of all the extra work of several of our members keeping it running. Our new furnace is a high efficiency furnace and is expected to pay for itself within 5-7 years, providing savings on our gas bill and reducing, if not eliminating, service calls. The Board thought this was a good long-term investment in the Society and use of the 2010/2011 budgeted Capital Improvement funds.

However this is just the beginning of what is to come in 2011. The Long-Range Planning Committee will be presenting the long range plan this spring. They have been hard at work talking with committees and members about our goals and objectives. I cannot wait to see the results of their hard work. The Committee on Ministry is going to be working on updating our covenant. You will be hearing more about this project from January through March. They will be asking all of us for our input. And finally, the board is always working on getting our policies and procedures down on paper. But that is not everything we are working on, but I have simply run out of space. I have not even mentioned the religious education and spiritual opportunities for the coming year. There is a lot to look forward to in 2011.

Rachel Webb

## Announcement from the Nominating Committee

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland (UUSC) Nominating Committee is beginning the search process 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 will be available at the back of the sanctuary beginning January 16-2011.

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](mailto:jkhonsky@gmail.com).

## 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.

## UUSC News/Announcements

**Movie Night—Sunday, December 26:** Movie Night is Dec. 26th at 5 p.m. at the Society. The movie is "Food, Inc." which is a documentary on the food industry and how it impacts the way we as a society eat. It is much like the very popular book, "The Omnivore's Dilemma" by Michael Pollen. Movie Night is open to all. See Mary Schatzman for more info (maryschatzman@sbcglobal.net).

**UUSC Office Closed for Holidays: December 27, 2010—January 1, 2011:** The Society office will be closed from Christmas Eve until New Year's Day. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 4th.

**High Efficiency Furnace Installation December 27-31:** This is to remind you that we are getting a new high efficiency furnace installed between December 27-31. Contact Rachel Webb (216-956-4634) or Elaine Weaver (440-605-1641) if you have any questions.

**First Sunday Potluck—Sunday, January 2:** We will be having a First Sunday Potluck after service on Jan. 2nd 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.

**Reading to Refugees—Tuesday, January 4:** We will be going to Green Road to read to the Bhutanese refugees at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 4th. 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, January 5:** This is a continuation of a six series session. The January 5th topic will be "Moving Beyond Monkey Mind". 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.

**Next Circle Supper—Saturday, January 8:** Once a month we do semi-potlucks at members' homes. We get to know each other and make friends and talk about everything under the sun. And we eat. We get loud. We laugh a lot. If you're a vegan you're in luck. Many of us are too, and the dishes we bring reflect that. Sound interesting? Sign-up sheets are available at Sunday services, or you can e-mail Ken Nightingale at father.nature@sbcglobal.net or call him at 216-470-7643 to ask questions.

**"What Does It Mean to be a Religious Community?" - Sunday, January 9:** The first conversation in a series designed to begin the process of writing a new congregational covenant is Sunday, Jan. 9th, after the service. Food will be provided with a small donation requested to help cover costs. There will be two more opportunities to participate in this conversation: Saturday, Jan. 15th at 11:00 a.m., and Wednesday, Jan. 19th at 7:00 p.m. There will be a facilitator and note-taker for each conversation, and the results will inform Rev. Bossen's Jan. 30th sermon. Sign-up sheets are on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Everyone is encouraged to attend one session.

**Newcomer Orientation—Sunday, January 9:** Our next Newcomer Orientation will be Jan. 9th after service from 1:00 -3:00 p.m. (lunch included). We encourage newcomers to attend and to meet with Rev. Bossen.

**Young Adult Discussion Series—Tuesday, January 11:** The Young Adult Discussion Series at Algebra Tea House in Little Italy will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 11th. The next meeting topic is "What Do We Mean By God?". Contact Rev. Bossen at minister@uucleveland.org for more info.

**Spirit Song Circle—Wednesday, January 19:** Do you like to sing? A monthly gathering and spiritual practice group that just might be an antidote for information overload—attuning body, mind, heart and spirit. Facilitated by Rev. Mary Grigolia. For more information call 216-539-3784, or email: mary@marygrigolia.com. Fee: Dana (pay what you choose).

**Cleveland Memorial Society Presentation—Sunday, January 23:** Bill McCullam, Vice President of the Cleveland Memorial Society, will give a brief presentation on Jan. 23rd at 12:30 p.m. at the Society. The organization is under the umbrella of the national Funeral Consumer's Alliance and their function is to provide a dignified, simple and low cost funeral for anyone who wishes by negotiating with local funeral homes. Membership is a life-time only cost of \$15.

**InterAct Cleveland Homeless Stand Down:** Help reach the goal of distributing 2,000 Personal Care Kits, Bagged Lunches and RTA All-Day Bus Passes by contributing these essential items. Monetary donations are the greatest needs and will be used for the purchase of boots and bus passes. Financial and in-kind support pledge forms are due by Wednesday, Jan. 5th. Volunteer training begins Jan. 19th at 6:30 p.m. For more information see [www.interactcleveland.org](http://www.interactcleveland.org) for donation drop-off sites and dates, and a schedule of events.

**Roommate Wanted:** Amy Harmon is seeking a roommate to share her apartment in Tremont. For more information, feel free to email or contact her at amyaharmon@gmail.com.

# Artists-in-Residence: Possibilitarian Puppet Theatre

The 3rd Annual New Year's Eve Insurrection Mass  
&  
The 4th Annual Funeral March for the Rotten Ideas of 2010  
with Special Guest and Storyteller, Norma Powell

Folk stories will open the program, as told by Norma Powell. Then the puppet show begins with the New Year's Eve Insurrection Mass, a non-religious Puppet Service in the presence of the paper-mache gods of the day, including a Fiddle Sermon inspired by the Rotten Idea of the day. When it comes time to bury the Rotten Idea of the day, we will exit the building with a Funeral March parading through Coventry Village. The Funeral March will be a moving spectacle in rain, sun, or blizzard (bring your hat!) accompanied by The Wild Music Marching Ensemble. And when all the Rotten Ideas of the Year are buried, a Possibilitarian Parade filled with Radical New Year's Resolutions will fill the streets! The show is free, with donations greatly appreciated. There will be sourdough, wood-fired brick oven bread & aioli to eat after, with cheap art for sale. The show starts at 3 p.m. on December 31st at the Society and it's free with donations greatly appreciated. For more information contact Diana Sette at [diana\\_sette@yahoo.com](mailto:diana_sette@yahoo.com) or 215-771-8287.

**Special Guest Norma Powell** is an actor, singer, storyteller, drama coach, and stage manager, who has been involved in the performing arts for many years. At Karamu Theater she performed in more than one hundred operas, musical comedies, and dramas, and in 1998 was presented with an award for outstanding contribution to Karamu House. She is also a member of the Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers (CABS). Norma also co-produces and co-hosts the "WAKE UP And LIVE with the ARTS" TV show. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/don-iannone/3374730945/>.

## RE-VIEW

### Nursery Revamp

As many of you know we're in the process of revamping the look of our nursery. Having a clean, professional looking nursery for our children is important but also plays a big part in having visitors with babies and toddlers keep coming back to the Society. We'll be updating toys, books and furniture as well as creating a new layout with different play stations for our children. We're ordering new supplies now so look out in December and January for the new changes.

### Caldecott Books

As I mentioned, one thing we're trying to rework in our Nursery is our children's library. Because of this the RE committee is currently holding a Caldecott winning books drive. We've asked members of the congregation to commit to buying one book from the last twenty five years of Caldecott winners. For those of you who aren't familiar with the Caldecott medal it is awarded annually to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children. So far we've already received commitments for seventeen of the twenty-five books. Check with Linda Coulter during coffee hour to see which books we still need.

### Yoga Field Trip

We had a fantastic field trip right within walking distance of the Society! On Sunday December 12th during services several older youth and adults from the Society bundled up and headed down to Buddahful Spin on Coventry. Buddahful Spin is a yoga studio located in a studio above where VidStar used to be located. Our youth group's curriculum had a session on Yoga that week and Mariamne Ingalls was able to setup this legs, bodies, heads and hands on demonstration for us. This is an example of Religious Education at its best. I'm sure that yoga wasn't for all of our students but I'm equally sure that it's given them something to think about.

Nathan Staples, DRE  
[dre@uucleveland.org](mailto:dre@uucleveland.org)

## Membership Committee

From the Membership Committee:

Last month, in the first edition of a new monthly series from the Membership Committee, we asked all members of the congregation to start thinking of themselves as part of the Membership Committee. The reason for this is simple: in order to continue to support a full-time professional minister, staff-led programs and increased outreach to our communities, our congregation needs to continue to grow. In order to grow, we need the support of our entire community.

We believe there is no better advocate for a community than the members themselves, so we would like to start with a simple call to action to all members:

Take thirty minutes to come up with a one-sentence statement explaining why you are an active member of this community. Keep it short, sweet and to a single sentence. You can start the sentence like this: "I am a member of this community, because \_\_\_\_\_".

Once you have your statement, you can use it when making conversation with visitors at Coffee Hour, explaining Unitarian Universalism to a friend, or volunteering for the Society on Sundays and at community events.

We'd love to hear what you come up with. If you would like to share this with the Membership Committee, see any committee member or drop your sentence in the Collections Plate on Sunday.

Thanks,  
The Membership Committee

### **11th Annual Ohio Meadville District Winter Institute: February 18-21, 2011**

Join us for a relaxing and "schedule and stress free" weekend for UUs of all ages. There are frosty outdoor activities like sledding, hiking and cross country skiing. For those who choose to stay in their slippers all weekend, there is a beautiful lodge with its many cozy corners and fireplaces. The pool and hot tub are truly a wintertime treat. There are fellow UUs always ready to play board games or to join in the community jigsaw puzzle. We have wonderful community worship services and great conversations.

Winter Institute is held at Salt Fork State Park, the flag ship lodge of the Ohio State Park System, located near Cambridge, Ohio. It is 2 hours from Columbus, Cleveland or Pittsburgh. The park has a beautiful lodge with an indoor pool, game room with pool tables, ping pong tables and video games, lounge and hiking trails. The lodge is handicap accessible.

Register at the OMD website by January 28th and reserve your room directly with Salt Fork and ask for the UU conference rate. Rooms will be held until January 17. For more information and to register go to <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/conference/omdwi.html>.

### **Stress Busters Workshop: January 22, 2011**

The Society's November Fundraiser Event and Silent Auction was quite a success and there is still an opportunity to participate. One of the activities offered for \$10 per person was a Stress Buster Workshop that is being presented on Saturday, January 22nd, at 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Energize your body, mind and spirit and get off to a great start in the New Year and gain new techniques for minimizing the stress in your life. For more information contact Shirley Nelson at [uucleveland.org](http://uucleveland.org) or 216-978-2626.

# January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Choir 9:30 am 1st Sunday Potluck 1 pm	3	4 Reading to Refugees 7 pm	5 This is Your Brain on Meditation 7-8:30 pm	6 Shifting Gears 1:30 pm Joseph Campbell RT 7:30 pm Facilitators Training 7 pm	7	8  Circle Suppers (in home) 6:30 p.m.
9 Choir 9:30 GBLT Disc. group 1 pm "Questions Session" 12:30 pm Newcomers orientation 1	10	11  Young Adult Disc. Group— Algebra Tea House 7:30 pm	12	13  Stewardship Com. Mtg. 6 pm	14	15 "Questions Sessions" 11 am
16 Choir 9:30 am	17	18	19 Spirit Song Circle 7-8:30 pm "Questions Session" 7 pm	20	21	22 Stress Bust- ers Workshop 10 am—1 pm
23 <i>Beacon Deadline</i> Choir 9:30 am Cleveland Mem Society 12:30 Stand Up Comedy 1 pm Movie Night 5	24 Committee on Ministry 7:30 pm	25	26	27  Board of Trus- tees Mtg. 7 pm	28	29
30	31					

**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  
Wed. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and  
Sun. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Kelsey Fischer  
Membership Coordinator

William Shorter  
Custodian

Barbara Boyd  
Choir Director

Rev. Peggy C. Clason  
Minister Emerita



**UUSC DEADLINES:**

**Beacon Articles:** Deadline for February is January 23rd

**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](mailto:office@uucleveland.org) or just call and leave a message on the machine. Thanks!!*

*January*

Zoe Economos	17
Wes Senseman	19
Sarah Koenigseker	24



**UUSC Board of Trustees**

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

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