



# Open Minds & Open Hearts

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Cherry Hill

Volume 56, Number 1  
May 2012

## A Month of Sundays

All services begin at 10:15 a.m. unless otherwise noted

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#### Consulting Minister:

Rev. Julie-Ann Silberman-Bunn

**Ministerial Intern:** Jennifer Kelleher

**Music Director:** Ken Ewan

**Office Secretary:** Kathy Wilson

Staff Hours Listed on Page 5



#### May 6

#### "Entering into Beloved Conversations" Rev. Mishra-Marzetti, Ms. Denny Davidoff and *Congregation Member*

We are privileged to have former Moderator of the Unitarian Universalist Association (our second highest national elected office) Ms. Denny Davidoff, joining Rev. Mishra-Marzetti and *Congregation Member* in the pulpit this Sunday as we reflect on issues of racial and cultural diversity. What does it mean as Unitarian Universalists to encounter such diversity? What is the Beloved Conversations program that Ministerial Intern Jennifer Kelleher has been leading this year? How might this program inform the ministries of our congregation? Join us this Sunday as we welcome Ms. Davidoff, a nationally recognized civil rights advocate, into our pulpit.

#### May 13

#### "Annual Coming of Age Service" UUCCH Youth

Join us this Sunday as our eighth graders participate in this annual rite of passage. Having spent recent weeks reflecting on their own lives and spiritual beliefs, our youth will be sharing with us their "credos," their statements of what they believe spiritually, and how they understand the world. Always a wonderfully inspiring service, we learn much about our own beliefs and faith when we hear from our next generation of Unitarian Universalists. You won't want to miss this very special opportunity.

#### May 20

#### "Flower Communion Sunday" Rev. Mishra-Marzetti & Rev. Silberman-Bunn

Flower Communion is one of our uniquely Unitarian Universalist traditions! Join us as Revs. Mishra-Marzetti and Silberman-Bunn each share their experiences and understandings of this tradition, one full of beauty and flowers during which we reflect on our individual uniqueness and the transformative power of community. We ask that you please bring several flowers with you that you have bought, or are from your garden, to share at this service. The flowers you bring will be part of this Sunday's communion ceremony, and will be shared with others in the congregation. We hope to see you there!

#### May 27

#### "Universalism—Maybe It's Time" *Congregation Member, Ministerial Leader*

Lay Ministry Leader *Congregation Member* leads this Sunday's service on the topic of our Universalist heritage, and looks at Universalism in the past, present, and future. What meaning and spiritual nourishment can we discover and share with ourselves and those who would join us. Can the unfulfilled dream be a part of tomorrow's Pathway in our UU Faith?

UUCCH is proud to be a Welcoming Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

# Reflections for the Journey

Reverend Manish Mishra-Marzetti, [MMishra@aol.com](mailto:MMishra@aol.com)

## **If You Knew**

*What if you knew you'd be the last  
to touch someone?  
If you were taking tickets, for example,  
at the theater, tearing them,  
giving back the ragged stubs,  
you might take care to touch that palm,  
brush your fingertips  
along the life line's crease.*

*When a man pulls his wheeled suitcase  
too slowly through the airport, when  
the car in front of me doesn't signal,  
when the clerk at the pharmacy  
won't say Thank you, I don't remember  
they're going to die.*

*A friend told me she'd been with her aunt.  
They'd just had lunch and the waiter,  
a young gay man with plum black eyes,  
joked as he served the coffee, kissed  
her aunt's powdered cheek when they left.  
Then they walked a half a block and her aunt  
dropped dead on the sidewalk.*

*How close does the dragon's spume  
have to come? How wide does the crack  
in heaven have to split?  
What would people look like  
if we could see them as they are,  
soaked in honey, stung and swollen,  
reckless, pinned against time?*

Ellen Bass

As some of you may recall, our April 15 worship service on the topic of estrangement featured the above poem by author Ellen Bass, a powerful and poignant reminder of how bruised and broken, precious and irreplaceable, each of us is. We live in times in which deep, fundamental rifts characterize our society, and those struggles are mirrored in our own hearts and relationships.

I have witnessed many heartbreaking personal struggles over the past few months. Adult children, so resentful of and hurt by their upbringing that they refuse the petitions of a parent begging forgiveness and reconciliation, even as the parent dies. Parents, so set in old, harmful behavior patterns that they cannot find meaningful ways to connect with their adult children, even when the children long for that connection. Adult siblings, so caught up in decades of rivalry that being right and indignant has become more important than the possibility of being mutually supportive family members. Lifelong friends torn apart by misunderstandings or a collection of slights that have never been adequately addressed or discussed. Partners/spouses, who at one point genuinely loved one another, now struggling to amicably live together under the same roof, wondering if the relationship is over. Good people, so brokenhearted, so lonely, that the illusory relief of drugs and alcohol may be too strong to avoid. Loving, caring individuals, individuals who have done their very best to live upstanding lives, struggling with potentially life threatening medical diagnoses.

(Continued on Next Page)

These situations, and so many other similarly painful ones, are very real. They exist in our community, outside our community, all around us. Today, right now. On one level, this depth and breadth of personal pain and struggle is startling, heart-wrenching, and distressing. On another level, it's a reminder of why we are in religious community to begin with. The Spirit of Love that we speak of in church every Sunday is embodied and made real through the words and deeds of each of us. We are God's/the Universe's hands, and we have the ability to respond to one another's pain. In addition to lovingly supporting one another, we also have a moral imperative to be sure that we are not one of the ones causing or inflicting pain on others. Our own motives, intentions, tone of voice need to be examined: are we deepening the global rift, or pouring love and healing into it? Every day, every minute, the choice is ours.

For those that may not know, we have a grief and loss support group that is regularly meeting at the church. If you are among those in our community currently struggling in very real and deep ways, this group is for you. Please go. Please be open to the connections that can help heal and soothe your soul. Rev. Julie-Ann (email: [revja@aol.com](mailto:revja@aol.com)) can provide you the details of when/where this group meets. For those of us that are hearing stories of loss and struggle around us, please claim the mantle of love. Our world needs you. Others in our community need you. Please don't wait to be asked. Just call, just approach the person, and offer that part of you that is the truest, most selfless, most eternal aspect of who you are: your love. All the better, all the more courageous and meaningful, if you don't even know the person. May your love shine brightly and be a force for healing.

Many blessings for the month ahead, Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti

## Affirmations of Spirit

Jennifer Kelleher, Ministerial Intern, [jelleher@meadville.edu](mailto:jelleher@meadville.edu)

This past year I had the privilege to cofacilitate, along with *Congregation Member*, a pilot adult exploration program called Beloved Conversations: Meditations on Race and Ethnicity. Beloved Conversations brought together an intentionally diverse group of members from our congregation to explore dynamics of race and ethnicity in our personal lives, in our community, and in our church.

We covered an amazing amount of material in eight sessions; too much to try to summarize here and do it any justice. We talked about what racism looks like in our present world, how we felt about it, and how we can work in big and small ways to affect change: starting with ourselves. I cannot begin to tell you how awestruck I was, being with this group. The level of sharing and support was open and trusting, even when we held divergent viewpoints. Talking about racism is difficult. It is so much easier to avoid discussing it. That is why Unitarian Universalist Religious Educator and Seminary Professor, Dr. Mark Hicks developed Beloved Conversations. Dr. Hicks says, "Talking about race often equates with images and feelings of divisiveness, anger, guilt, shame and frustration. Most reasonable people would ask, 'Why would I sign up for that?' ... Remember, this is a meditation, a spiritual practice of raising consciousness with critical friends who love one another in discomfort." Each session that our group held was a witness to living our Unitarian Universalism—putting into practice the values and principles we affirm. When we stay at the table and discuss deeply difficult topics with respect and care, that is one of the ways we put our faith in action. And, in my opinion, when we are also able to do so with laughter and humor, our time together is doubly divine.

I am passionate about anti-racism work. I believe as a Unitarian Universalist who affirms the inherent worth and dignity in each person, and is called to create positive change in this world, it is my theological imperative to be involved in anti-racism efforts. To paraphrase activist Tim Wise: as a white person, I am involved with this work not because of guilt for past wrongs, or the current actions of others, but because, I am here. I believe if our current generation continues to avoid the reality of today's racism and remain silent, the issues will persist. Our children and their children will enter this global age of continuing diversity, which without efforts now, will only be less tolerant in the generations to come.

It does not need to be this way. So many of us envision a better tomorrow. Now that the pilot curriculum of Beloved Conversations is at its close, what might be next for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Cherry Hill? How might anti-racism work nurture your personal spiritual growth?

I encourage you to join us for our special Sunday service on May 6, where we will explore this further. Anti-racism work welcomes confusion, uncertainties, vulnerability, and more than anything, it welcomes the power of what happens when small groups of people come together to change the world.

With love and in spirit, Jennifer

# Faith-Full Thoughts

Reverend Julie-Ann Silberman-Bunn, [revja@aol.com](mailto:revja@aol.com)

As some of you will note my column is now entitled *Faith-Full Thoughts*. I picked this title in part because many churches have been moving away from the idea of religious education and towards the idea of faith formation. Instead of knowledge passed from teachers to students in the traditional sense of religious education, formation is about the process of creation, a personal set of understandings being created by students with the help of the teacher.

For me school was often a difficult place. I began in an inner city public school in Trenton in 1968, where I was one of only a few white students in the school. I liked my teachers and had fun, and did well. When we moved to Lawrenceville, I was not only behind my class, I was below my grade. The future of school for me was one in which I was often teased about my weight, struggled to keep up academically, discovered I had a mild reading disability, and generally found reason after reason not to feel good about myself or school.

Church was always different from school for me. Church was a place with warm loving people who treated me as a person. In church people asked me questions and cared about my responses, not just whether or not I had the right answer quickly enough. I want all children to feel as good about our church as I felt about the UU church of my childhood.

When I think back, I think about the church of my childhood, not Sunday school. Part of me wonders if it is because school had such unpleasant associations after a very short time. The model of Sunday School that we use today is rooted in the 1850s. I am trying to learn about some alternative models that allow our children to embrace their own faith development journey. I hope we will all have opportunities to explore ways to keep our faith in formation!

Rev. Julie-Ann

**Coming of Age Service on May 13:** Our Coming of Age Service is one of the highlights of the year. It is when the whole church gets to hear from our eighth grade class about their beliefs. It is important for our younger children to witness and experience this rite of passage. The Chalice Children and any Primary (preschoolers and K-1) children who are not able to sit in service for the rest of the time will be involved in a group activity following the Time for All Ages.

**Summer RE & RE 2012—2013** Register your Children for Summer RE and the 2012-2013 church year on May 20 or June 3. Our Religious Education Assistant, Lynn Thomas, will be available after the service, and during the picnic on May 20 and on June 3 to help us register our children for the summer and the following church year. The more registrations we get in early, the better our process can be. I believe we may need to divide the group into two sections based on age this summer. It is very important for us to know what size and age breakdowns we are preparing for. Please contact me at [revja@aol.com](mailto:revja@aol.com).

**Flower Communion is May 20th! Remember to Bring Flowers!**



## SEND US YOUR NEWS

Via web at <http://uucch.org/newslettersubmissions>  
or via email at [uucchnl@gmail.com](mailto:uucchnl@gmail.com) or via the  
"Newsletter" box in the church office

NEXT DEADLINE:  
May 20 for May 31 mailing

**Editors:** *Congregation Members*

**Production & Circulation:** Kathy Wilson

**Mailing Volunteers:**  
*Congregation Members*



# Music Notes



Music Notes

Ken Ewan, Music Director, [kewan783@comcast.net](mailto:kewan783@comcast.net)

The church year is drawing to a close (if you are to believe the weather, it is summer) and activities are calling us to the great outdoors and adventure, but there is still May and a few weeks of June, that allow for us all to be together to celebrate in full community (COA, Flower Communion, the RE Picnic, All Church picnic, Annual meeting).

The music committee is continuing its work by planning musical community events and doing long range plans for the JPD Worship Arts Festival in early 2013. We also have new members joining (Chuck O'Neil and prospective members, Joe Biringer and Dan Ellis). We are also looking for a new chair. Jess Doheny will be stepping down after two years. I am so sincerely grateful to Jess for her great leadership skills and the far-reaching ideas that she has given us. Jess's ideas have allowed us to continue and further the committee's and UUCCH's vision in a very dynamic way. We have also had the privilege of experiencing and enjoying her considerable talent and skills as a singer and an actor. THANK YOU, Jess.

You may have noticed, just this week, that there is more space in the sanctuary, in the choir area. The organ is gone. Rich McGeehan took on the huge task of dismantling its many and complicated parts. Long story short, it had been a gift to the church a little over five years ago. It was used in several ways (along with the piano, choir accompanying, solo, etc.) but it soon became evident that its forty-year-old technology and parts (it was a prototype in 1962 for the current-day Allen digital organ) were not going to hold up. Dismantling it became an arduous task since it could not be set out at the curb. After being evaluated by several folks in the field, it was decided that nothing could be done to salvage the organ; It was a good effort and experiment, and we appreciate the generosity of its donor.



~ Ken Ewan

## Staff Hours

### Senior Minister, Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti's Work Hours

**Monday - Thursday: Noon - 9 p.m.**

Appointments recommended. Please email ([MMishra@aol.com](mailto:MMishra@aol.com)) or call Rev. Mishra-Marzetti to set up a date/time at cell: 856-701-9302

### Consulting Minister, Rev. Julie-Ann Silberman-Bunn's Work Hours

**Monday -- Thursday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.**

Appointments recommended. Please email ([revja@aol.com](mailto:revja@aol.com)) or call Rev. Silberman-Bunn to set up a date/time at her cell 203-231-8243

### Ministerial Intern Jennifer Kelleher's Primary Work Hours

**Tuesdays: 1 - 8 p.m.**

**Wednesdays: 2 - 9 p.m.**

Appointments recommended. Please email ([jkelleher@meadville.edu](mailto:jkelleher@meadville.edu)) to set a date/time.

### Music Director Ken Ewan Office Hours:

**Mondays: 2 - 6 p.m.:** Greater SJ Chorus rehearsal **6:30 - 10 p.m.**

**Wednesdays: 1 - 7 p.m.:** Choir rehearsal **7:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

### Office Secretary, Kathy Wilson's Office Hours:

**Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. — 3 p.m.**

# From the Board of Trustees

## What's New with the Board of Trustees (BOT)?

The Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on April 4. The Board welcomed *Congregation Membera* to the UUCCH Community. Total membership is 334 people. The Board accepted the Minister Performance Evaluation Salary and Rent Recommendation report submitted by the Minister Evaluation Task Force and approved the JPD District Assembly Delegates: *Congregation Membera/*

The President's Report highlighted the announcement that UUCCH was delegated a Threshold Congregation, allowing us to receive critical staff support over the next three years to develop plans for growth and to be a leading congregation in our denomination. Another highlight was the Board retreat in March, which led to a discussion of the key points identified at the retreat: more celebrations, and possible changes to Policy Governance.

We discussed various upcoming recognition ceremonies, including endowment plaques for Building Our Dream, and the service in May recognizing volunteers. The Executive Committee suggested a fall recognition event/potluck dinner, hosted by the Board, highlighting the past year's events, perhaps commemorated in a yearbook.

Additionally, Board announcements during service could include "thank yous" for recent activities.

In an ongoing effort to shape Policy Governance, we discussed the many roles our Senior Minister has assumed, and the possibility of adding more people to the Ministry team. *Congregation Member* will head a committee of current and former Board members to review Policy Governance and make recommendations regarding the best ways to manage the process.

We discussed the format of the April 29 Congregational Conversation to maximize input concerning expectations on key issues. As we transition to a larger church structure, it is vital that expectations and transparency regarding inevitable changes are addressed. In that vein, Rev. Manish recommended the book, *Raising the Roof: The Pastoral-to-Program Size Transition* by Alice Mann as a study tool for the Board to understand the dynamics of size transition.

There are many diverse opportunities to be involved in shaping the future of UUCCH. We see a limitless future and hope you do too!

~ *Congregation Member, Board of Trustees*

## Happy May Birthdays

*Congregation Membera*

*If you would like to be included in the monthly birthday list, please call or email the church office.*

## Member Anniversaries

Congratulations to those in our church community with milestone membership anniversaries during the month of May:

1 Year: *Congregation Members*

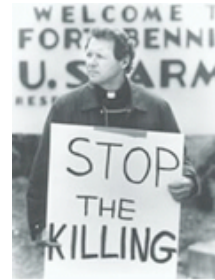


# Programs & Events

## Stop the Killing, Honor the Dignity of Women An Evening with Fr. Roy Bourgeois, Founder, School of the Americas Watch

**Saturday, May 5, 7—9 p.m.** at UUCCH

A Maryknoll Missionary priest since 1972, Roy worked for five years with the poor in Bolivia before getting arrested and being forced to leave the country. He became an outspoken critic of U.S. policy in El Salvador in 1980 after four U.S. church-women, two of them his friends, were raped and killed by Salvadoran soldiers. This led to the founding of School of Americas (SOA) Watch that same year. He has spent over four years in U.S. federal prisons for nonviolent protests against the training of Latin American soldiers at Ft. Benning. He has produced two Oscar-nominated documentaries: *Gods of Metal*, about the nuclear arms race (1983) and *School of Assassins* (1995). Roy was the recipient of the 1997 Pax Christi USA Teacher of Peace Award and has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. He has faced censure by the Vatican and his own order for refusing to be silent concerning gender injustice in the Catholic Church.



SOA Watch is a broad and diverse grassroots movement rooted in solidarity with the people of Latin America. The goal of SOA Watch is to close the School of the Americas—training site for hundreds of Latin American soldiers every year—and to change U.S. foreign policy in Latin America by educating the public, lobbying Congress and participating in creative, nonviolent resistance. Freewill contributions for the work of SOA Watch will be gratefully accepted.

~ Congregation Member, The Social Justice Committee

## Sanctuary Meets May 16

Sanctuary invites all who are interested to join us on Wednesday, **May 16 at 7:30 p.m.** in the **Horsch Room** as we continue our exploration of *The Sins of Scripture* by John Shelby Spong. Our May meeting will focus on Section 2: "The Bible and the Environment," as we consider Spong's thesis: "The purpose of being fruitful and multiplying, according to Genesis 1:28, was to subdue the earth and to have dominion over all living things . . . Increasingly we exercised that dominion, but today the earth is fighting back." Please join us.

~ Congregation Member, Sanctuary

## Anthropological Approaches to Religion

This month Anthropological Approaches to Religion will feature Harry LaBelle discussing Zen Buddhism.  
**May 13 at 12:15 p.m.** in **C102**. All are welcome.

~ Congregation Member

## Friday Night at the Movies

There will not be another "Friday Night at the Movies" until fall; we are taking the summer off. On September 14, we look forward to seeing, *Renewal, Stories from America's Religious-Environmental Movement*. Enjoy your summer, be green and we'll see you at the movies on the second Friday in September.

~ Congregation Member, The Green Team

## Grief Group

**May 10 and 24 at 7 p.m.** This group is open to all church members and friends who are struggling with issues of grief and loss. Facilitated by a church member who is a professional in the field of psychology, this group is informal, confidential and open to newcomers. If you have questions please contact [revja@aol.com](mailto:revja@aol.com)

## Secular UUs Meeting

Our next meeting, on May 1, will be on the topic of "The 'G' Word." *Congregation Member* will lead the discussion and has suggested these preliminary questions:

- Some of us are angry at, or about, something that we do not believe in. How are we angry at nothing?
- What do we see as the genesis of our anger? Were we mistreated by God? Are we really angry at earthly organized religion, but we take out our anger on God? Do we feel that mentioning the 'G' word constitutes pressuring us to believe?
- How does referring to a different belief hurt us?

All are welcome to join the discussion at 7 **p.m.** on Tuesday, **May 1**, in the **Horsch Room**.

~ Congregation Member, Secular UUs

### **Everyday Spiritual Practice Discussion Group**

At the May meetings of the *Everyday Spiritual Practice Discussion Group*, we will discuss the essay, "Art" (pp. 255-259). We are pleased that the essay's author and our Consulting Minister, Rev. Julie-Ann Silberman-Bunn, will be at these meetings to lead the discussion. All are invited!

The May meeting times are:

- Thursday, **May 17**, from **7:30—9:00 p.m.** in the **Horsch Room**
- Saturday, **May 19**, from **10:00—11:30a.m.** in the **Horsch Room**

For questions, please contact *Congregation Members*.

~ *Congregation Member, Everyday Spiritual Practice Discussion Group*

### **The Friday Morning Book Discussion Group**

The Friday Morning Book Discussion Group will meet on **Friday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. in the Horsch Room** to discuss *Pope Joan* by Donna Woolfolk Cross. For more information, please contact *Congregation Member*.

~ *Congregation Member, The Friday Morning Book Discussion Group*

### **All Church RE Picnic**

Every year the Children's Religious Education community organizes an ALL CHURCH PICNIC. This year the picnic will be on **May 20**, the same day as the flower communion. This means we will have the opportunity to first share a wonderful multigenerational worship experience sharing one of the highlights of the UU worship year, and then come together for a celebration of food and community with one another as we share in the festivities of the picnic. The CREC team will provide hamburgers, turkey burgers and vegan burgers, buns, condiments and drinks. We ask that members of the community help by bringing something to share according to this alphabetic break down:

A—H — Appetizers and/or finger foods

I—P — Salads and/or side dishes

Q—Z — Desserts and/or fruit

Rev. Julie-Ann and Lisa Nagasuru will be the coordinators of the picnic. If you are willing to help please make sure we know how you would like to be involved by contacting Rev. Julie-Ann at [revja@aol.com](mailto:revja@aol.com).

~ *Rev. Julie-Ann*

### **Dance as Mind Body Medicine: Breath and Movement: Keys to Life**

Want to Dance? Remember the dancers during worship on March 25? Want to try out dancing as a prayer in motion? Please join us on **May 1 from 7—9 p.m. in the Sanctuary** for a fabulous workshop.

This workshop is suitable for all levels of experience, including no experience in dance! The focus will be on self expression and fun. Participants will experience the depth and power of dance, breath, and movement as a tool for self care, self expression, and stress management. This workshop is also therapeutic in that participants will learn to integrate this skill set into their life and experience how fundamental these skills are to relieving stress, which can be a element of chronic illness and depression as well.

Participants will come away from this workshop also experiencing dance as a potential path to personal transformation and spiritual fulfillment as we create the "beloved community" and learn a piece of choreography from the repertoire of Core of Fire Interfaith Dance Ministry.

Dr. Carol Penn, who completed her medical studies at UMDNJ School of Osteopathic Medicine, is currently a Resident in Family Practice Medicine at St. Joseph's Hospital in Philadelphia. Dr. Carol has a national certification in Mind-Body Medicine and is a certified Health, Wellness, and Fitness coach and professional. Dr. Carol is a true Renaissance woman with a lifelong interest in women's health issues. She has practiced yoga for three decades, and as a yoga instructor, has several areas of specialization, including prenatal yoga. Dr. Carol is also a Reiki practitioner and has a long term affiliation with Lamaze International, serving on its Board of Directors for over twelve years. She is also an award-winning choreographer who trained as a professional dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. She is cofounder and director of Core of Fire, a women's interfaith dance ensemble.

Please rsvp to [revja@aol.com](mailto:revja@aol.com). There will be a \$10 fee per person to help defer costs of the workshop leader.

## **Ministry Team Officially Adopts Executive Newsletter Policies**

Unitarian Universalist Church in Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Officially adopted April 10, 2012

### **Executive Policy on Newsletter Publication**

1. The purpose of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Cherry Hill's newsletter is:
  - a. to be a vehicle of ministry in our community,
  - b. to deepen relationships and a sense of community,
  - c. to deepen engagement in the activities of our community,
  - d. to announce upcoming church and community-wide events, activities, and programs that may be of interest to our membership, and,
  - e. to share information about the ministries and activities of the church.
  
2. There are a limited number of "standing" columns in each newsletter. These standing columns repeat each month and are the responsibility of the designated staff member or entity. These standing columns are written by the: Senior Minister, Associate Minister, Intern Minister, Music Director, and the Board of Trustees.
  
3. Announcements of upcoming church events, activities, and programs, and requests for volunteers, are encouraged and welcome. Such submissions will be prioritized in terms of: 1) when the activity is occurring, 2) scope/breadth of the activity (the level of actual or potential community-wide interest/participation), and 3) space constraints.
  
4. Announcements of non-church sponsored events/programs (events/programs hosted by outside entities) may be published in the newsletter depending on the relationship of the event with the church's mission, vision, ends, and/or strategic initiatives, and pending space availability. The publication of events primarily sponsored by outside organizations is of lower priority than the publication of information regarding church organized/held events, activities, and programs.
  
5. Unsolicited submissions (that do not fall under items 2-4) are discretionary and may or may not be published. Such items will be reviewed by the newsletter editor(s) and by at least one member of the Ministry Team for: 1) timeliness/usefulness, 2) appropriateness, 3) content value, 4) tone, and 5) alignment with the goals of the ministry as a whole.
  
7. The church recognizes that there are cost constraints in terms of the number of pages that can be part of the newsletter, the weight of the mailings and the cost of postage, and other related factors. The newsletter publication team will strive to use the available resources for the maximum benefit of the community.
  
8. Any submission that may potentially or actually violate our congregation's Covenant of Right Relations will be withheld from publication pending further review and dialogue. Right Relations questions will be referred to one or more members of the Ministry Team.



# Committee Corner

## **UUCCH Caring Cooks**

Any idea how many meals were delivered to support UUCCH members in 2011?

49 Caring Cooks from UUCCH delivered meals. In April 2012 alone, we delivered 5 dinners by mid month. If you have signed up to cook for other church members, watch your inbox for an email from

[takethemameal.com](http://takethemameal.com). It's not spam or trash, it's been sent to you by the food coordinator. Please think about

helping this time. If the answer is yes, sign up online; the invitation will give you all the details you need. If not,

let Congregation Member know, or if you've been on the meal delivery brigade and need to take a break, let her know that too. Congregation Member

~ Congregation Member, Caring Team

## **New Trees in the Parking Lot**

Three hackberry trees were recently planted in the large parking lot to replace the red oaks which were removed because they were dying. These trees were transplanted from where they had naturalized on the church grounds. They don't make much of a show now, but they will eventually develop into good looking trees.

For those who do not know hackberry, it is native to the eastern half of the United States. It is in the elm family, and it matures into a medium size tree. Its fall foliage is yellow, and it has no major insect pests or diseases.

The small fruits, about the size of a large pea, will not be a problem since they are usually eaten by birds. Two

interesting characteristics of the hackberry are its warty bark, which develops even on small trees, and witches' brooms, which may appear as the trees become larger.

~Congregation Member, Chair, Grounds Committee

## **In Other News....**

### **Pastoral Visitor Training**

Pastoral Visitor Training will take place on **May 19** from **1 to 3 p.m.**

Each year there are many people in our congregation who need support from our congregation's Caring Ministry Team. Those who have attended the Pastoral Visitor Training are an important part of our congregation's growing caring ministry. Pastoral visitors make visits to those who may have an ongoing illness or recovery which keeps them from attending church on a regular basis. Pastoral visitors, while not the ministers in the church, are more than just church friends; they are individuals with specialized training that helps them listen more fully, know when their visit is enough, and/or when additional outreach may be needed. The Pastoral visitors work closely with Rev. Julie-Ann.

~ Rev. Julie-Ann

### **The Clean the Closet Fairy returns in June!**

Are you missing an umbrella? An old sign? A toy? A coat, scarf, hat or mittens? During the first 3 weeks of June all items that have been left in the coat closet will be on display in the commons. On June 18 they will ALL be taken to Good Will. Any questions? Call Congregation Member.

~ Congregation Member, UUCCH member

### **Congregation Member Honored**

Kudos and congratulations to *Congregation Member* who was named as one of the Master Music Teachers for 2011 by the NJ Music Educators Association. "The NJMEA, in conjunction with the NJ Retired Music Educators Association, inaugurated the program in 1979 to discover, recognize, and honor its quality music educators.

*Congregation Member* has been the choral director at Winslow Township High School (formerly Edgewood Regional High School) in Atco, for 17 years. The school's concert choir and chamber choir have performed extensively throughout the northeastern United States, and have regularly ranked superior at state and regional festivals" also receiving the Governor's Award for Arts Education, along with another teacher, this spring.

~ From the NJ Educators Association Newsletter, submitted by Congregation Member

## For UUs, From UUs

### **Registration open for 2012 UU Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage**

The next UU Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage is scheduled for October 6-13, 2012, and registration is now open. This unique bus trip is much more than a Civil Rights history tour through Alabama and Mississippi. We will be visiting historic sites and meeting veterans of the Civil Rights Movement, and we will also be spending time together and with guests exploring what racism, white privilege, and barriers to equality look like today in the Southern towns we visit—and in our own hometowns.

Beyond experiencing firsthand the civil rights legacy, our goal is to develop commitment, vision and mechanisms within our group to work on issues of race, injustice and inequality that still bedevil our congregations and our society. The Living Legacy Pilgrimage is hosted and organized by the Reverend Gordon Gibson and Judy Gibson; the Reverend Hope Johnson; the Reverend James Hobart; Janice Marie Johnson; Annette Marquis; and Donna Sequeira, and co-sponsored by the Southeast District of the Unitarian Universalist Association. For more information and to register, please visit [www.uulivinglegacy.org](http://www.uulivinglegacy.org). Don't miss your chance to be on the bus! Register early—costs are discounted for those who **register before May 15**.

*~ Judy Gibson, Southeast District of the UUA*

### **Wine Country Holiday**

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of North Bay

The UUs of Napa, California proudly announce the sixth season of our Wine Country Excursions. As you may know, for seven years our little UU Fellowship in Napa, CA., in an effort to move closer to our goal of moving from rented space to a home of our own, has been conducting "Wine Country Excursions." We invite UUs from across the nation to stay in our homes and tour the Napa Valley, tasting wines, enjoying beautiful scenery, art and history. All proceeds from this enterprise go to the building fund. We have made substantial progress but still have some distance to go.

There is much to see and do in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys: e.g. wine tasting at renowned and boutique wineries; visits to art galleries and museums; exploring the natural beauty of our hills and valleys on miles of hiking and bike trails or by car on our highways and back country roads. Napa is an hour from San Francisco by car or ferry. We offer 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 our members—some with wine industry experience—or lodging and self-guided touring. If desired, we provide guidance, maps, etc. UU ministers will be personally guided by our minister, Rev. Bonnie Dlott.

The program runs from April through October. Our fees are well below market rate for comparable services and again, all proceeds go to our small fellowship. For complete details contact: Tom Wilson (707-254-7443) or [2wilsons1dog@comcast.net](mailto:2wilsons1dog@comcast.net). We look forward to sharing our lovely "home" with you!

*~ Tom Wilson, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of North Bay*

### **Murray Grove News Update**

Murray Grove Retreat and Renewal Center: Open year-round for your UU gatherings and family retreats. Copies of our new 8-minute DVD are now available.

**Camping in the Grove! August 12-16:** 5 days of fun-filled summer adventure for children in third through sixth grade. If you love games, art, swimming, music, nature and bonfires, our camping experience, then Register now!

**Universalist Convocation—May 18-20:** The annual gathering held "to explore and draw from the heritage of Universalist experience and faith to inform Unitarian Universalism today and help light its way toward the future" will be at Murray Grove this spring. RSVP required.

**Drum and Dance Fest—July 6-8:** Express yourself creatively and spiritually! All levels welcome! Learn Afro-Brazilian, Latin and West African Drumming, Belly and Hoop Dancing, plus Drum/Dance Jams, Facilitator Performances. Drum around our fire circle. Come for the whole weekend, or just a day. Visit [murraygrove.org](http://murraygrove.org) or call for the details.